64-1943

Africa

CIO Sailors Defy Color Bar In S. Africa Hotels

Chicago Ill. Defender

MAY 8 1943

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Chicago Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON. — (Censored)— While American authorities may ignore the color bar problem at home and abroad, there are signs of growing solidarity between white and colored American merchant seamen in foreign ports to unite against attempts to segregate Negroes sailing under the "stars and stripes" carrying lend-lease cargoes.

Describing a recent united front action of white and colored members of the CIO National Maritime Union in a certain port in South Africa, Lady Milner, wife of a former British governor-general of South Africa, said: "We hope that lessons like these will penetrate the thick heads of the Afrikanders.

"In South Africa there has gradually grown up under Boer influence a very strong social repression of all natives," explains Lady Milner in the London "National Review."

"This culmination under the Hertzog-Smuts coalition government when the natives in the Cape Province were deprived of the franchise they had exercised for 80 years, as long as the white population. But Americans very properly do not allow this discrimination to extend to colored American citizens who, whether black or white, have to be treated properly out of America.

Refuse Segregation

The following anecdote illustrates their attitude and the Cape reaction. It comes from a south coastal town:—

MAY 8 1943

"Some two weeks ago, just following our catastrophic rainfall of 13 inches in two days, two boatloads of American merchant sailors blew in here, from a torpedoed ship. About 40 in all, to be fed, clothed, housed and forwarded.

"No difficulty about house-room, as both our hotels stand practically empty. But three or four of the men were Negroes. Suggestion to segregating them at a quite nice non-European boarding house was made by certain officials but the white seamen protested.

"American citizens cannot be treated as inferiors," they asserted.

Stroll Hand In Hand

"So the Hotels Magnifique and the Ballymoral had to let them 'muck-in' with their white mates, and for a week our local colored and Pondo inhabitants were treated to the spectacle of white and black parading the village arm-in-arm, sharing drinks, lounging in the hotel lounges, sitting together at table in the 'Est-kamer,' with Ponde waiters to fetch and carry for Yankee 'black-stuff'—and dutifully call them 'Sir.'

"The effect was rapidly demoralizing our color-bar, and a plan was made to get rid of the lot by the next South African Railway passenger motor-bus.

"Alas, the Yanks, white and black, all insisted in traveling first class. There are only 10 first class seats in front, and none of them would agree to travel in the empty tail-end of the bus, herded with Brother Pondo. So it took three buses at two-day intervals to get the lot and give the color-bar in South Africa a chance to straighten its back again."

MAY 8 1943

64-1943

Ill-Timed And Ill-Advised

Daily World Atlanta, Georgia

The resolution, adopted by City Council here Monday, asking removal of the recently established Regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices because of the prospect of the "mixing of the races" in one or more Atlanta office buildings, is both ill-timed and ill-advised.

DEC 9 1943

Created by executive act of President Roosevelt some two years ago, the Committee has as its aim and function to utilize to the fullest possible extent, all available manpower and skill without regard to race, color or national origin, in the speedy and successful prosecution of the war. The Committee does not seek to regulate the private social life of either Negro or white citizens. It has no interest in the nonsensical chatter about "social equality" between the races. It is purely and simply a war measure affecting the welfare of Negroes in industries, geared to the all-out production battle.

Council begs the question when it states that the "race situation can best be handled by local people." Under the terms of the order that is left precisely to the local people to handle as they have always done and are yet doing. Precisely in what manner the Committee's activities have stirred animosities in other portions of the South,, Council does not say. But we believe it is fair to state that all such animosities stem from a deep-seated resentment against the Order because of its efforts to protect Negro workers from exploitation in industry.

DEC 9 1943

True it is that a few Negroes may be thrown among whites by the establishment of the office here. But we are unable to understand how such a thing can create ony undue excitement as to warrant such far-reaching action as anticipated by the resolution. And we do not believe that Council's action is expressive of the sentiment of the majority of white citizens, to say nothing of the sentiment of the more than 100,000 Negroes of Atlanta.

Moreover, if there is any one factor which will prolong this war, it will be the failure of industry to utilize all possible sources of manpower, thus slackening the pace of American production.

Accordingly, this action by the City Council of a great and growing city like Atlanta is most deplorable and we hope it will not be pushed. It can only increase the tension between the races and certainly Council does not want any such responsibility upon its shoulders.

DEC 9 1943

Separate Hotels In Mobile For Seamen

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

NOV 13 1943

MOBILE, Ala.—Bowing to South-seamen is scheduled to start soon ern discrimination, the Unitedand until it is completed, Negro Seamen's Service is setting upseamen must seek shelter among separate hotels here for coloredthe over-crowded homes of Mobile. and white seamen.

The act of discrimination is be-It was pointed out that all rest lieved the first of the part of the centers of the USS are open to USS in providing shelter for sea-Negro seamen. The center in this men.

area is located at Pass Christian, Miss.. on the Gulf.

A hotel for white seamen, the George Self, is already being operated, having been dedicated here last Friday.

Work on the hotel for colored

Kansas City Call

Kansas City, Mo.

Alabama Senator

ALABAMA

Says Segregation Is Good for All

MOBILE — (ANP) — Alabama "knows how to handle the racial problem and should be permitted to do so just as New York and other states should have the right to take care of the problem in their own way," declared State Sen. James A. Simpson, of Birmingham, Friday, in a speech before an audience of business and professional men.

"Segregation of the races," he added, "works out in the best interest of all and imposes no penalty on a member of any race in undertakings to better his economic standards."

The president pro-tem of the state senate charged that "New York and other northern states are trying, through Washington, to impose upon Alabama the New York conception of racial relationships."

The Birmingham attorney declared that Alabama citizens are in danger of losing their heritage of democratic government through legislations and regulations by federal government bureaus which now carry a million or more persons on their payrolls.

DEC 31 1943

DEC 31 1943

DEC 31 1943

64-1943

ARKANSAS

Mixed Soldiers Get Same Hotel In Dixie, But Don't Sleep Together

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y. NOV 6 1943

LITTLE ROCK (ANP)—Police were called to the Texas-Stanley hotel when several white inductees objected to being quartered in the same building with Negro inductees as well as to living conditions in their quarters. When police officers arrived they found that the white soldiers had moved to the Marion hotel to spend the night at their own expense in going to camp.

NOV 6 1943

Investigators revealed that the Negroes and whites were assigned to separate parts of the hostelry, and a search of state and city record uncovered no statutes preventing a hotel from receiving both Negro and white guests. Army inductees are sent to nearby Camp Robinson to spend the night, but inductees for other services are quartered in hotels.

It was learned, however, that Negroes and whites register at the same desk and use the same entrance. They have the same accommodations it was said but are not quartered together for sleeping purposes.

64-1943

Fires White Nurse On Segregation Complaint

Chicago, Illinois Chicago Defender

SAN DIEGO, Cal.—A white nurse who segregated a Negro patient behind a ward door in order to appease a white woman patient, was summarily dismissed by the San Diego county hospital here last week.

The nurse, whose name was not given, was charged by Mrs. Malinda Grismore, of this city, with deliberately segregating her to meet the wishes of a woman who protested against the presence of a colored woman in the same ward with her and other white women patients.

Mrs. Grismore declared that she went to sleep during the course of the conversation between the patient and the white nurse, and when she awoke found her bed had been pushed behind a door in the ward. When she remonstrated with the nurse, it was claimed, the latter severely criticized Mrs. Grismore, who was a heart patient at the hospital.

Leaves Hospital

Mrs. Grismore stated that she was so upset by the turn of events that she forgot about her condition and got up and left the hospital. Physicians observed that the action might prove detrimental to Mrs. Grismore.

Dennis V. Allen, president of the San Diego Race Relations Society filed a bill of complaint with Dr. Robert S. Adams, superintendent at the institution, urging that steps be taken immediately to correct the situation.

In the ensuing investigation, Dr. Adams decreed that the offending nurse must be removed and that in the future there is to be no differential in the treatment of patients at the hospital.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

California Mayor Incites Race Riots

SAN FRANCISCO – (FP) – Mayor John Stewart of Vallejo aired lynch-inciting opinions before a meeting of Sen. Sheridan Downey's military affairs subcommittee here recently, repeating his complaint that mixing whites and Negroes in federal housing projects would lead to race riots.

Stewart, who defended Vallejo landlords in their recent strike against rent ceilings, told a meeting of the house naval affairs subcommittee:

"We have had two lynchings in California in recent years—in Santa Rosa and San Jose. These have been lynchings of whites by whites. What do you think will happen if southern whites are provoked by Negroes living in the same government projects with them?"

The mayor's remarks were challenged by Vallejo residents who testified that serious problems in the overcrowded war community are due to inadequate housing, transportation facilities and public health services.

DISMISSES JOHNSON EVICTION CASE

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Ayril 8—A Municipal Court Judge decided here last week that Jack Johnson, former heavyweight champion, and his wife will not have to move from their home on Figueroa avenue, after their landlady, Mrs. Mary D. Eastland, white, filed a suit requesting an order to force them to move. The Johnsons refused to move, contending that they were asked to move because of race discrimination. The judge, Robert Clifton, upheld the former champion's contention.

The Bernal Case

Sirs:

Congratulations on your fair and newsworthy treatment of the suit involving the civil rights of Mexican-Americans, *i.e.*, Mr. Alex Bernal and his family in Fullerton, Calif. (TIME, Sept. 6).

My gosh! I am Scotch, Irish and English and might want to live there sometime.

REV. E. SHURLEY JOHNSON

Detroit

Time
Chicago, Illinois

Sirs:

Your article . . . reminded me of something Alex Bernal said when, as an eight-year-old neighbor, he helped pick the fruit in our yard. Forbidden to climb the trees, Alex had been struggling for hours with a long-handled rake to get three persimmons hanging out of reach. Finally he said, "Mrs. Mackey, why couldn't *you* climb this tree?"

My mother objected that 60 years of life had unfitted her for scaling up trees. "But," persisted Alex, "where there's a will, you know, there's always a way."

. . . I hope that other upward reaching Mexican-Americans may feel a will and find a way to break through the undemocratic property restrictions which have long prevented them from buying comfortable homes on pleasant streets.

DRUSILLA B. MACKEY

Pueblo, Colo.

Sirs:

. . . I'd be proud to have the Mexican Bernals live next to me.

J. C. MASON WHITNEY

Berkeley, Calif.

California

Whites in Venice, Cal., Want to Keep Negroes From Their Section

Call

Form Committee to Consult With Housing Officials on Location for Settlement

Kansas City, Mo

VENICE, Cal. — A proposed government-sponsored housing development for Negro war workers was discussed from the viewpoint of white property owners at a meeting in the city hall last week. Most of the 75 owners present were interested in keeping Venice a white community.

City Councilman Harold Harby stated: "The project is an attempt at aiding the overcrowded conditions under which the Negroes are living in some parts of Venice. The conditions are actually deplorable. The Negroes are living like animals."

M. E. Dieboldt, a white civic leader, was cheered when he said: "Equality among the races means inter-marriage and Caucasian people will not tolerate that." He suggested that the government purchase for the expansion program, the property now owned by white people in the Negro section.

Pastor Is Agreeable

The leader of the movement to improve housing conditions for Negroes, Rev. M. Harley Duvall, pastor of First Baptist church of Venice, explained that Negroes are making a definite contribution to the war effort and need adequate places to live.

According to a local daily paper, he told the white people present, "I can justly see that the location in the Lincoln Boulevard area is not right for us since you wish to expand into that section. But wherever you best decide that we can live, will be perfectly all right with us."

Mrs. Waldo Hobbs, the president of the Women's City club, which called the meeting, said she had checked into the situation and found that the colored man does not wish to live in the same area with the white man.

Form Committee

The meeting came to a close with the formation of a committee to meet with the housing officials in an effort to locate the Negro settlement in a district where the "white people will not be hampered by it."

M. E. Dieboldt was appointed chairman.

64-1943

CONNECTICUT

This Is Not What We're Fighting For, America!

People's Voice
New York, N. Y

High Body Slaps Down 19 Who Protest Jimcro

NOV 27 1943

DANBURY, Conn.—Nineteen prisoners—on a work strike here at the Federal Correctional Institution as a protest against segregation—have been locked in cells for three months and will remain in confinement until such time as they have become "disciplined" to accept the Department of Justice's policy of segregating white and Negro Inmates. The director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons insists that the institution must follow "the generally accepted practice of the community at large." The men challenge that the Department of Justice is not a reflection of imperfect society, but the guide for our civilization's conduct.

NOV 27 1943

Fifty percent of the prison population is composed of Jehovah's Witnesses and other conscientious objectors to war. The 19 men represent almost one-half of the prisoners, who tried for six weeks to bring to the warden's attention the problem of compulsory segregation imposed upon them by an institution of the Federal Government

NOV 27

The prisoners originally asked that their personal concepts of racial equality be respected and some adjustment be made to abolish the violation of conscience to which they were forcibly subjected. Despite the several solutions available, the prison authorities' attitude has been unchanged.

VISITING TIME REDUCED

The institution denies the men are being punished, yet the one hour a month visiting time was reduced to half, with a prison guard supervising the visit. (It was originally intended to be but 15 minutes twice a month!)

At least one of the men, Mathias Kauten, was eligible for parole upon one-third of his term. His application was denied because "he refused to work." Last July, a Negro inmate, George Albin Mathurin, was transferred to Federal Penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa., for his protest against racial segregation. It is feared the warden will choose this manner of breaking the strike if it is prolonged.

64-1943

D. C.

DELEGATES TO FOOD PARLEY JIM CROWED

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Mayflower Officials Won't Allow Negroes As Guests In D.C.

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—Ethiopia's delegates to the United Nations Food Conference were the victims of Jim Crow in the nation's capital here, it was disclosed this week.

JUN 5 1943

The delegation, headed by Yelma Deressa, Ethiopia's vice-minister of finance, tried to get rooms in the Mayflower Hotel here but were turned down because of their color.

It was learned that after their arrival here by Clipper, the Ethiopians reported to the State Department and were told that rooms had been reserved for them at the Homestead Hotel in Hot Springs, Va., where the food parley is being held.

But they had arrived several days before the beginning of the conference and had to find a place to stay in Washington. They proceeded to the Mayflower Hotel and asked for rooms.

There they were turned down.

Unable to find a place elsewhere, they finally had to live with the regular Ethiopian representative in Washington for they were unable to find a place that would take them in.

JUN 5 1943

It was also learned that the Ethiopian delegates here are paying for their expenses in gold sovereigns down across the Atlantic ocean.

COVENANT BARRING NEGROES OUTLAWED

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

By GEORGE STAFFORD

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Rising to the dignity and importance of the occasion, Circuit Judge James E. McLaughlin, presiding in Division 3 of the Circuit court of the city of St. Louis, Monday, Sept. 27, handed down one of the most democratic and fair decisions in the history of St. Louis when he decided in favor of the defense in a suit by restrictive agreement trustees to enforce provisions of a 20-year-old covenant barring Negroes from the 4500 and 4600 blocks of Enright avenue.

"Where are we going to place those 38,000 Negroes who have moved into the city in the last 20 years?" asked Judge McLaughlin in handing down his decision.

SUIT FILED LAST YEAR

The injunction suit was filed March 12, 1942 by Clarence M. Turley, Charles W. Young and Frank Altmeyer, all prominent members of the decidedly prejudiced St. Louis Real Estate Exchange, and named Frederick H. Maher and Charles Johnson, white, owners of the property at 4573 Enright and 4517 Enright, respectively, and Lorenzo Blanton, George Spotts, and Lawrence and Lilly Holland, defendants.

OCT 9 - 1943

Attorneys Tucker, Garner and Hollie represented the defendants.

Judge McLaughlin also pointed out that in 1920 there were only 69,854 Negroes in the city of St. Louis; while in 1940, there were 108,765 here. A gain of 38,911. He also cited the fact that in 1923 practically all of the property owners in the district were against Negroes occupying residences in the two blocks, but that by 1938, 15 years later, only 55 per cent objected.

"Some of the restricted homes have non-restricted property on both sides which may be occupied by Negroes. The situation found here defeats the very purpose of the neighborhood scheme—to limit the use and occupancy of these homes to members of the Caucasian race," Judge McLaughlin concluded.

The case is one of several now pending in the courts and is one of the first to receive a favorable decision.

Boys Town Boy Meets Jim Crow in Washington

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Mates Stay at Statler Hotel After Football Game But Not Clarence Adams

By JOE SHEPHARD

WASHINGTON

Clarence Adams, 17-year-old halfback for the football team from Boys Town, Nebraska, was obliged to find at a private residence while his teammates were housed at the Statler Hotel, the AFRO learned this week.

NOV 13 1943

There is no racial discrimination at Boys Town, nor was there any on the football field at Griffith Stadium Sunday when the Nebraska youngsters punched out their 12-6 win over the white Gonzaga Parochial High School Eagles.

But, after the game, a darker picture greeted Adams, who stayed at the home of Mrs. Dorothy I. Miller, principal of the Washington Vocational School.

J.C. Sightseeing Tour

While the twenty-two white members of his squad visited Capitol Hill, the Earle and Capital Theatres, Adams visited several colored schools, Freedmen's Hospital and a theatre on U Street.

Adams, a clean-cut, level-eyed youngster, was found at the Washington Vocational School by two AFRO reporters after repeated calls to the Statler Hotel had failed to reach either him or Father Flanagan.

The guest of honor at a special assembly, he was questioned by girl students when the reporters arrived.

No Bias at Boys Town

He stated that there is no discrimination at Boys Town, that every boy, regardless of his color, gets an equal chance at posts on the government, and is treated the same as the others.

Asked whether he would go to college, he answered that he would like to but didn't know that he could.

To a reporter's question as to whether he had been actually told that he could not stay at the Statler, he replied that he had been told before his arrival that he would be met by Mrs. Miller, at whose home he would be a guest.

Confidence in Flanagan

He did not know whether the hotel had raised any objections to his staying there or not. Neither did he know of possible protests by Father Flanagan.

"But," he said, "I do know that Father Flanagan would not do anything to hurt any of his boys nor l[redacted] so."

Mrs. Miller said that when she agreed to care for Adams several weeks ago, she thought that the white boys would be cared for by white Catholic families.

Negro Housing

Post
Washington, D. C

NOV 13 1943

The controversy over sites for Negro housing in the Washington area is symptomatic of a truly desperate situation. Almost no housing for Negroes is available, and hundreds of families are living under frightful conditions. The National Housing Authority has programmed 3000 units for construction in this area, 2200 to be built in the District and the remainder in Virginia and Maryland suburbs. But land for the public projects is just now being acquired. It will be months before the 1000 units assigned to public agencies become available, and there seems to be no assurance as to when private builders will complete the major part of the program assigned to them. Some indication as to the inadequacy of this program may be found in the fact that more than 2000 families have applied to the National Capital Housing Authority for space in the forthcoming projects. The NCHA will build only 740 units. With the funds now on hand, it can meet only a small fraction of the urgent demand for Negro housing.

A sample of what this problem means to the community came to light this week in connection with a juvenile delinquency case. The lad who has run afoul of the law comes from a family of 10 living in one miserable room in a shack that affords little protection against cold. Moreover, the family is scheduled to be evicted because it is overcrowding its wretched quarters. The possibility of finding another house or even part of a house is almost nil. Here is stark evidence that the community is falling down in its basic responsibility to look after the welfare of its citizens.

NOV 13 1943

There is the negative approach of checking up on children who become delinquent and of evicting families who overcrowd their hovels. Yet the city fails to provide an environment in which people can live above the level at which crime is encouraged and the community health menaced. Washington has been shamefully negligent in meeting this obligation and Congress should be made to realize that fact when the new NCHA bill comes up for approval.

Race Relations Setup In U.S. Housing Agency Still Remains A Question Mark

By HARRY McALPIN
(Chief, Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON.—How the National Housing Agency is handling the problem of housing Negroes is a question of national importance today.

Every organization with the least interest in Negro welfare, every "expert" on race relations, has pointed a finger at "inadequate housing" as one of the causes of the growing racial tensions in America.

Because of wartime regulations and restrictions, the entire housing responsibility of the nation, both public and private programs, is in the hands of the National Housing Agency, of which John B. Blandford Jr., is administrator. He has farmed out various responsibilities to constituent agencies — such as the Federal Public Housing Authority, the Federal Housing Agency, the Home Loan Bank Board, etc. But the overall policy-making, supervision, coordination and responsibility is in National Housing Agency. All the planning and programming is done by the NHA.

The administration of the housing agency is important in the present war crisis and in the post-war picture. It is of tremendous importance to Negroes in both periods — suffering as they do from a combination of circumstances which make housing one of their chief economic problems.

Used As Restriction

Aside from the "inadequacy of housing" being one of the most frequently quoted causes of racial tensions and subsequent frictions, some critics have recently seen in it a possible weapon to carry out the much-criticized proposal of Attorney General Francis Biddle for restricting or prohibiting the migration northward of Negroes from the South for war work. Already some employers have defended themselves to the Fair Employment Practice Committee on charges of discriminating against Negroes in their hiring practices, on the ground that there is not sufficient housing "ear-marked" for Negroes to justify them recruiting Negro workers.

Other critics, looking toward the post-war period, see the Negro dropping far back in the parade of progress so far as housing is concerned. They point to the fact that the bulk of the present permanent housing and most of the proposed post-war housing is in the hands of the private financiers and real estate interests — who have shown an alarming lack of interest in providing housing for Negroes. The government's housing construction efforts are limited now almost exclusively to temporary structures.

Though a moderate proportion of the temporary facilities are being constructed for Negroes, the future is uncared for. These structures, which are supposed to be torn down after the war, will likely be permitted to remain and rapidly deteriorate into additional slum areas for Negroes, say these critics. Negroes who have found their way out of the South during the war are not likely to fall over one another in any rush to return there when hostilities end, they say. They will have to be housed somewhere. Their "temporary" dwellings will probably become that "somewhere."

Fosters Segregation

Another criticism leveled at the nation's housing agency is that it is fostering and spreading segregation, even into areas where it had not existed before. This, it is charged, is done in the name of a policy of maintaining "community patterns." More likely, say others, it is an appeasement and a "pay-off" to those Southern politicians, led by Rep. Joe Starnes of Alabama, who has openly attacked the race relations offices of the housing agencies and denounced all mixed-housing projects. Starnes and his cohorts — which includes Rep. Richard B. Wigglesworth, Republican of Massachusetts — control the purse strings through their positions on the House Appropriations Committee.

The housing agency is still under the thumbs of these men. Despite an authorization of $300,000,000 voted by Congress, only $100.000.000 was actually appropriated. The additional $200,000,000 will be requested this fall, when Congress reconvenes.

This "hammer" over the head of the housing agency has made its officials overly cautious where Negroes are concerned, in an effort to stay off the toes of Starnes and Wigglesworth. This is particularly true in the field of race relations.

From experience, Negroes have learned that the presence of their own representatives in responsible positions in a government agency tends toward a more equitable participation of Negroes in the agency programs. On the other hand, the absence of such representatives, or their presence buried in administrative red tape and lack of authority, usually results in discriminations and injustices. They point to one of the National Housing Agency's constituents, the Federal Housing Administration, where there are no Negroes in responsible positions.

FHA Stand

The FHA is held responsible by most Negroes for the spread of segregation through the government's housing program. The "community pattern" idea is its brain child, and all site selections for both publicly and privately sponsored housing projects must receive FHA approval. FHA refuses to guarantee loans to home buyers, who happen to be Negro, if the property to be purchased is in or borders on a "white" neighborhood. It supports and thus encourages restrictive covenants.

But the parent agency, the National Housing Agency, has overall supervision and control of all its constituents. A strong racial relations setup there could aid the administrator in carrying out the expressed policies of non-discrimination.

Before Starnes' tirade against the race relations office of the NHA Administrator Blandford was very much in favor of a strong setup. In his justification to the Budget Bureau for his 1943-44 appropriation, he termed the racial relations office as "an integral part of the agency, under the administrative direction and supervision of the administrator and his assistants in charge of operations." Concerning its operations, he declared: "Their operations often avert allocations of discrimination and save time, effort and expense of costly investigations. When such difficulties do arise, these workers are often able to help effect solutions which protect the interests of both the federal agency and the minority groups involved."

He further stated "through special training and experience these workers are intimately familiar with problems peculiar to minority racial groups. Like technicians in other fields, they are impelled to render advice and counsel in the complex field of racial relations.

Budget Slashed

"Trial and error over a period of years have demonstrated the value of such personnel in preventing the rise of racial issues in devising realistic solutions of racial problems and in facilitating smooth operations and harmonious relationships. Wartime necessity for maintaining national unity and high morale makes it imperative that the agency rely more and more on the racial relations personnel for such assistance."

But when the appropriation for housing was passed, Starnes and Wigglesworth had seen to it that exactly the amount requested for operation of the race relations office had been stricken from the bill, with no explanation or suggestion as to how the cut should be absorbed.

Blandford denies having made any committment to Starnes or anybody else that the racial relations office would be discontinued. The air has been cloudy in this quarter ever since, however, until recently when the only full time professional worker in the race relations office was transferred to a non-operating division of the agency to do a routine job of reviewing plans and programs and gathering statistics on Negro participation.

A consultant on race relations is maintained on the staff of the administrator, carried on half-time on the payroll, but who, because of other responsibilities in a city some 800 to 1000 miles away, spends about one or two days a month in Washington.

This is the present status of the racial relations office in the key agency handling the housing program of the nation. Blandford expresses a keen interest in the problem and a desire to do more. He admits, however, he doesn't know exactly what to do. In the meantime, accusing fingers are pointing from the West Coast, Detroit, Baltimore, Buffalo, Chester, Philadelphia, Washington, and elsewhere.

COLORED PLAYER OF BOYS' TOWN TEAM BARRED FROM CITY HOTEL

By LANIER COVINGTON

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Father E. E. Flanagan's Boys Town football team is better than any other organization when it comes to the question bringing a mixed group into the Nation's Capital according to the policy of the Statler Hotel where all but one member of the twenty-three man squad is being housed.

Clarence Adams, standout halfback of the visiting clan, was not admitted to the hotel as was the other members of the team because he is a Negro. Adams was forced to seek his living quarters at the very pleasant and comfortable home of Mrs. Dorothy I. Miller, 600 Twenty-first Street, Northeast.

In view of all this Father Flannagan remained silent and a dozen calls at the Statler Hotel were turned away with the answer that the Catholic priest was not receiving calls. All efforts to reach him failed.

Adams on reaching the city was refused admittance to the hotel and was left on the street by Father Flannagan, his coach and teammates who entered the hotel. Mrs. Miller picked him up and carried him to her home. The boy did not have any money and he was given some and taken to [illegible] of the U Street theatres. He is not even permitted to visit his team at the hotel.

It is understood that Senator Thomas is a sponsor of the game which is to be played Sunday. Many of Adams teammates expressed disgust at the boy's treatment and some said they would rather not stop at the hotel if a fellow player is barred.

The arrangements were made some two months before the team arrived when Mrs. Miller was contacted regarding the care of the only Negro on the team. Mrs. Miller is principal [illegible] Margaret Washington Vocational High School.

Adams arrived with the team last Tuesday and was met by Mrs. Miller who in turn escorted the team's star player to her home. On Wednesday morning Adams sought out his teammates at the hotel and was told by one of the help he could not visit nor see members of the Boys Town team, of which he is the backfield ace. Neither has Adams enjoyed the many hospitalities shown his mates during their stay here.

While his white friends were well entertained downtown Adams confined his sight-seeing periods along U Street, taking in the Lincoln Theatre and several quiet spots among the very hospitable local Negroes. His teammates visited members of Congress, Earle and Capital Theatres.

The question of Adams participating in Sunday's clash with Boys Town's white opponent, Gonzaga High, has been very much on the doubtful side until Adams' coach, Maurice "Skip" Palrang, stepped in telling all in earshot that Adams would definitely be ini the starting line-up.

An injured finger kept Adams out of the last two of Boys Town's games but since the injury has been proven no broken bones and the lad has taken a two week vacation the question of playing definitely lies in the policy of the local promotion.

64-1943

D.C.

NCHA Criticised for Condemning Property of Home Owners to Erect Low Cost Housing Here

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

NOV 6 1943

John Ihlder, executive officer of the National Capital Housing Authority, told a subcommittee of the Senate that colored residents of the District are suffering a housing shortage because of the scarcity of vacant lots in colored neighborhoods.

Taking members of the Senate committee on a tour of housing projects, Ihlder pointed out that 350 housing units are to be constructed for Negroes near Stanton Road and Alabama Avenue, Southeast. He also advised the committee that there is only 1 vacancy in 3,000 units for colored, and that 3,200 additional units have been authorized to accommodate them, but they can't find the space in Negro neighborhoods.

Some members of the committee are known to have been dissatisfied with the explanation, pointing out that there were white housing projects built in Negro neighborhoods, such as the Knox Hill Dwellings, on Alabama Avenue, Southeast, which is surrounded by private residences owned by Negroes. If white projects can be built in Negro neighborhoods, why not build Negro projects in white neighborhoods, they reasoned.

In the meantime, Negro homeowners in the Stanton Road, Alabama Avenue area complained that rather than erect housing projects for Negroes on vacant land in so-called white neighborhoods, the Housing Authority is condemning the private residences of Negroes that have taken them a lifetime to build.

Fifteen of these home-owners sent a petition to Congressman Jennings Randolph, chairman of the House District Committee, asking him to aid them.

"Is there any reason for tearing down the homes of a progressive, self-respecting community to build houses for a shiftless, unprincipled group which waits for others to make provisions for it?" the letter of petition asked. "We cannot think so."

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

PLAYER BARRED FROM HOTEL—Above is seen Clarence Adams, ace player of the Boys' Town football team with his coach, Maurice "Ship" Palrang. Coach Palrang said Adams would play Sunday against Gonzaga at Griffith Stadium. However, the coach nor Father Flanagan took any action when Adams was barred from the Statler Hotel where the rest of the team stopped. Father Flanagan refused to answer his room telephone and refused to state why he allowed a member of the team to be left alone while the other members are together at the hotel.

NAACP Renews Protest Of Prison Segregation

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

NOV 6 1943

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The demand that the practice of segregation be abolished from Dansbury and Lewisburg prison was renewed again this week in a letter from the NAACP to James V. Bennett, director of Bureau of Prisons at the Department of Justice here.

The NAACP, which, September 16, had stated that the association felt there should be no segregation or discrimination whatever in federal prisons, reiterated the original protest against discrimination in the two federal prisons where a number of conscientious objectors are confined.

STRIKE IN SEPTEMBER

The first NAACP protest followed a disclosure early in September that the prisoners had gone on strike. The strike was in condemnation of the warden's refusal to permit racially mixed tables in the dining room for those who prefer to eat at them.

Bennett, in answering the NAACP, said: "The colored and white groups work on the same details, attend the same classes, participate jointly in recreational activities, play on the same teams and otherwise have exactly equal privileges. There are, however, certain traditions and habits with respect to indiscriminate intermingling of the races in the housing quarters and in the dining room which we have felt could not be arbitrarily ordered discontinued at present."

In response to this assertion the NAACP contended "the authorities in charge of these prisons have the right to force their own rules, which presumably are based upon the Federal Constitution. It would seem to me that it is up to the Federal government and to employees to establish and enforce rules instead of letting prisoners who harbor race prejudice do so."

64-1943

Florida

Delegation Descends On County Board

An indignant delegation of northwest section homeowners petitioned the county commission Tuesday to block Realtor Wesley Garrison's proposed settlement of negro families on lands he owns in their neighborhood.

Led by Henry C. Stumpf of 2999 N. W. 51st ter., Mrs. V. M. Bridges of 2904 N. W. 5st st., and Mrs. J. A. Rutherford of 2987 N. W. 50th st., the delegation presented petitions signed by 99 heads of families decrying the realtor's plan.

The area in question includes four blocks bordered by 30th and 32nd avenues and 50th and 52nd streets. The county owns a rock pit in four of the lots which run from 49th to 50th st., and lie just east of 31st ave.

TRIED TO BUY LOTS

Garrison offered recently to purchase the four lots. The offer was bluntly declined Tuesday after the protests of white residents in the area.

"I'm in favor of just holding these lots and letting someone put a glue factory or soap works on them if Mr. Garrison persists in his plan," Commissioner J. Lamar Paxson said.

The other four board members smiled knowingly and nodded approvingly at this suggestion.

Stumpf told the commission that he and other homeowners in the section had tried negotiating with Garrison to block the negro project but without success.

REFUSED TO SELL

"He has refused to sell the land to white people," Stumpf declared. "When we asked him to do this he said, 'It's my land and I propose to do as I please with it.' "

Mrs. Rutherford said she sent her attorney to Garrison to try to purchase two of the lots as protection for her homestead just across the street.

"My lawyer came back and told me Garrison said this was just a trial balloon; that if he got by with this invasion of a white area he would put negroes all over Miami and Miami Beach," the housewife said.

Mrs. Bridges reported that when she and two other women residents of the area tried to contact Garrison recently while he was supervising some work being done in the four blocks "he drove away hurriedly in his automobile when he saw them coming."

COMMISSION POWERLESS

The commission told her that they were powerless to act in the matter until there has been an actual movement of negroes into the area.

"To be fair with the negroes, Mr. Garrison should inform them before he takes their money for those lots that the county zoning commission and county commission can fix the building requirements for that area before anything can be constructed," Commissioner N. P. Lowrey said.

County Engineer Earle M. Rader reported that the contractor employed by Garrison to scarify the four blocks had damaged 50th st. "about $50 worth" in moving heavy equipment onto the property.

The commission instructed County Attorney Fred W. Cason to "take whatever steps were necessary" to collect the money and to determine if there had been a violation of the law in moving equipment over the streets without a permit.

GARRISON'S STATEMENT

Asked by The Herald about his plans for the area, Garrison said the Federal Housing administration about a year and a half ago had approved plans to build seven homes there at a minimum cost of $2,250 each.

However, because of wartime ban on private housing, he will not be able to do any building for the duration, the realtor added.

A number of negroes have bought lots from him in the area, he said, and intend to use them for vegetable gardens this summer.

Asserting that the area was the "oldest negro subdivision in Miami" and that it was a case of the "whites moving in on the negroes" instead of vice versa, Garrison declared his belief that neither city nor county has the authority to zone against negroes.

64-1943

Peoples Voice

New York, N. Y.

FEB 13 1943

An Unwritten Law

Discrimination against Negroes in public parks of Northern cities varies with the extent of prejudice against Negroes in the respective parks neighborhood.

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, PA.

Northerners Fail To Attack Bias Of Southern Partners

FEB 20 1943

WASHINGTON, D.C., Feb. 18—(ANP)—Dragging out of the skeleton closet an issue long settled, a virtual ultimatum has been issued from the State of Alabama against possibility that housing agencies of the Federal government are "to show to the world and to teach everybody the object lesson that two races could live together amicably under the same roof."

Under a barrage of questions by Representative Joe Starnes and Clifton A. Woodrum, Virginia chairman; John A. Blandford, administrator of the National Housing Agency, and Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority, promised the House appropriations subcommittee, during the recent hearings on the Independent Offices Appropriations Bill, that the housing agencies of the federal government would not initiate "mixed" housing projects anywhere in the United States.

NORTHERNERS ACCEPT TERMS

FEB 20 1943

Although four representatives from northern states were members of the sub-committee, not a single congressman is recorded in the hearings report as having objected to the line of questioning directed at Blandford and Emmerich while they attempted to justify the functions of their racial relations offices. By their silent acquiescence, northern members of the appropriations committee concurred in the insistence of Joe Starnes that the racial patterns of his Alabama must be imposed upon such states as New York, Illinois, Michigan and California.

Members of the appropriations committee from the states where the Negro vote is significance are Louis Ludlow, Indiana; J. Buell Snyder, Pennsylvania; Emmer O'Neal, Kentucky; Jed Johnson, Oklahoma; James E. Fitzpatrick, New York; Louis C. Rabaut, Michigan; Michael H. Kirwan, Ohio; Elmer H. Wene, New Jersey; Thomas J. O'Brien, Illinois; James M. Curley, Massachusetts, all Democrats, and Republicans John Taber, New York; Richard B. Wigglesworth, Massachusetts; J. William Ditter, Pennsylvania; Albert E. Carter, California; Everett M. Dirkson, Illinois; Albert J. Engel, Michigan; Karl Stefan, Nebraska; Frank B. Keefe, Wisconsin; Nobel J. Johnson, Indiana; Robert E. Jones, Ohio; H. Carl Anderson, Minnesota, and Walter C. Ploeser, Missouri.

MORE 'FATAL' SILENCE

FEB 20 1943

The silence of the northerners continued while the poll-tax state representative castigated the FEPC and the War Manpower Commission as "legislative hybrids" as he assailed their policy on Negro employment which makes the provision of housing for Negroes necessary.

Political leaders here anticipate that this capitulation to the segregation demands of the southern bloc may alienate from the administration blocs of Negro voters in northern states like Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York and California. In any close presidential election, as indicated by the most recent Gallup poll, the Negro vote in these states will be more controlling than the solid south. Republican leadership appears to be outgeneraling the Democratic administration by "playing ball" with the southern bloc through silent acquiescence in the expectation that they will win back the Negro vote.

GENERAL

Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala.

JUN 26 1943

SEGREGATION

To the Editor of The News:

On page nine of last Monday's Birmingham News is an article headed "Race Conflicts Harmful To Morale, Negroes Say."

This article gives an account of a Negro mass meeting held in Chicago last Sunday which passed a resolution to the effect that race conflicts in some Southern Army camps are having a dangerous effect on morale of the American people and irreparably undermining of the total and unified war effort. It is reported that this Negro meeting, under the auspices of the National Negro Council, urged that President Roosevelt issue an executive order under his emergency war powers "outlawing" discrimination, segregation, humiliation and unlawful killing of Negro soldiers and civilians in race clashes.

At the time this article appeared we were hearing over the radio, and reading in the press accounts of a very serious race riot in Detroit in which the number of dead and injured ran into large figures, and where U. S. soldiers were called into quell the riots.

JUN 26 1943

From these two incidents we are driven to some conclusions that should cause many people throughout the whole country to revise their thinking on the race question.

One conclusion is that the race question is not confined to the South.

Another is that nearly all race clashes come about not by reason of segregation, but for the lack of it. These and nearly all other race clashes can be traced to the indiscriminate intermingling of the two races, and in most of them proper segregation of the races would have prevented the clashes. A few misguided idealists in both races think the answer to all race clashes is to "outlaw segregation" when in fact experience teaches us that just the opposite is the case. These idealists would do away with all segregation and have the two races live together indiscriminately, in neighborhoods, apartments, hotels, schools, churches, work, play and all other relations.

JUN 26 1943

The fact is that about 90 per cent of both races do not want these conditions. Men and women of both races prefer neighbors and intimate friends of their own race. The "outlawing" of segregation of the races would have a tendency, not to prevent clashes between the races, but to provide a breeding ground for such clashes. Segregation provides a natural, easy environment for each race where each can live his life in a natural, unrestrained way.

If our race reformers would accept the facts as they are and bend their energies to bringing about a proper segregation of the races, instead of trying to "outlaw" segregation, race clashes could soon be reduced to a minimum. The trouble has never been the fact of segregation, but the unjust administration of it. There is no question that the Negro has a just complaint against the way segregation is administered.

All persons should bend their energies, not to "outlaw" segregation, but to bring about a fair and proper segregation, wherever it is practical, so that both races will have equal opportunity, and so the Negro may be proud of his community, his institutions and his race.

This would lead to a natural, unrestrained way of living, so that both races would live together in harmony, wherever the races are brought together, or live together in large numbers, either North or South, and all work for the good of all.

Ashville, Ala. W. L. ACUFF.

JUN 26 1943

A HEALTHY SIGN

Chicago Defender

AUG 7 1943

Amidst a growing resentment to multiple acts of discrimination and segregation, there appeared, last week, on the horizon a new sign which portends a heartening trend in quarters that mold the thought of our coming generation. The National Education Association, after protracted acrimonious debate at its Indianapolis meeting, finally passed a resolution ordering its executive committee not to schedule future conventions in cities that cling to the undemocratic practices of racial discrimination in the matter of housing, feeding or seating convention delegates.

Chicago, Illinois

Though the question of segregation had been raised in previous NEA conventions, beyond expressing personal regrets to Negro delegates no official action was taken. This is the first time in its history that the association has mustered enough courage to stand up for the inalienable rights of its dark-skinned members. Despite the fact that some 40 per cent of the membership voted consistently against the resolution, its passage represents a substantial victory for the liberal forces within the rank-and-file.

At a time when men of various races are dying for democratic ideals, it would have been tragic and disgraceful for this professional society of teachers to condone through silence the brand of un-Americanism that has made a mockery of our Constitution.

We believe so healthy a determination to give substance to their moral convictions, should go a long way toward restrengthening the moral influence of teachers in a democracy. For, it is in the school-room that the principles of human rights, freedom and privileges are interpreted in the light of truth or distorted in the darkness of falsehood.

Informs Staff He Will Not Tolerate FPHA Violations

Pittsburgh Courier

BY ERNEST JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25—(ANP)—Simultaneous with the hareup over the question of admitting Negroes to the Willow Run Housing project in the Detroit area, which has provoked many to see a weakening in the earlier policy of the Federal Public Housing administration, comes the announcement that Langdon W. Post, FPHA regional director for the West Coast section, informed all local housing authorities that he is again discrimination and segregation in any public projects under his jurisdiction.

Mr. Post is the former tenement house commissioner in the first administration of Mayor Florella H. LaGuardia of New York, and later became chairman of that city's local housing authority. It was under him that the policies instituted by Nathan Straus, former head of the United States Housing authority who was felled by the southern reactionary bloc because of his stand, were applied in New York. As a result that city today has some 12 public housing projects financed in whole by federal funds in all of which Negroes live.

His memorandum to the authorities, dated Feb. 17, and released here by the racial relations division of FPHA on Wednesday, said:

"THERE SHALL BE NO DISCRIMINATION"

"This is to inform you that it is the general policy of Region X in all of the Federal Public Housing authority that there shall be neither housing in all the West Coast

AUG 7 1943

states and in Arizona, both slum clearance and defense. It comes as an affirmation of a thing that has been practiced all along by most of the local authorities in the region.

Probably the most difficult of jobs in the area is that being done in Vallejo, Cal., where at least three race riots have flared in recent weeks. When Maurice J. Wilsie, white, executive director of the local authority there took over his job, he inherited a war housing situation that had been dominated by navy department policy. In the face of this handicap, Mr. Wilsie has been able to integrate both Negro and white families into the more than 15,000 units of the Vallejo projects and reports that his work is proceeding satisfactorily and harmoniously.

SEATTLE SITUATION

Up in Seattle, the situation is duplicated. Here the mixture included Filipinos and formerly Japanese too. Oakland and Los Angeles in California present what is said to be an excellent picture. In the latter city a large Mexican element enters into the racial character of the projects, and in almost all of them there is a fairly good mixing. A good deal of responsibility for this is attributed to the efforts of Mrs. Charlotta Bass, Negro member of the local authority.

SOUTHERN SAY-SO

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

Race Would Be Better Off Without The "Harold Reece" Type of Friendship

BY M. S. STUART

IF THE vision of an actually solved Negro problem should ever become a reality in this country, it would cause one widespread American industry to close its doors and deprive its specialists in demagoguery of their favorite, and oft times profitable, employment.

Mr. Stuart

The Fact Twisting Enterprises, Unincorporated of America, specializes in the juggling of language, the severing and isolation of excerpts from their related connections, the distortion of truths, the detouring of conclusions, the diversion of logical trends and the maneuvering of statements about the Negro race away from their plain intents to suit the whims and selfish purposes of its sponsors. To carry on the manufacture of its evil products it has developed at least three types of operators who have become experts in their respective fields. While they operate from the three opposite corners of the race question, they yet accomplish similar results in obstruction to racial progress. Strangely, all three types pretend friendship for Negroes.

SYMBOLS IN PERSONALITIES

One type is symbolized by certain Congressmen, who openly oppose everything advanced for the improvement of the conditions by which the Negro is handicapped; also by white writers like George Morris, Washington columnist of a large Southern daily. The second class is typified by froth-mouthed so-called Negro leaders safe away from Southern scenes, advocating idle dreams only for the purpose of attracting support to some pet project they are sponsoring. The third is represented by impractical, white visionaires like Harold Reece, white columnist of the Chicago Defender, posing as ardent friends either for commercial literary purposes, or to use the Negro as a guinea pig to establish for themselves public reputations as great, new-found sociologists.

NOT FALLING within either of these types are such true racial friends as Mrs. Roosevelt, Pearl Buck, Wendell Willkie, Charlie Houston, Thurgood Marshall and others, who have made real contributions without the designs of selfish profit.

A CASE IN POINT

This piece will be concerned with only one type—the Reece type—of "friends;" and it by way of reply to certain incoherencies spewed by Harold in his "The Living South," June 19, anent statements appearing in this space May 22, in reference to efforts of Northern leaders to press the Federal Housing Authority to make of the Willow Run Project in Detroit a bi-racial facility.

REFERRING to this columnist and certain white publishers as "Southern liberals" in a crude attempt at irony, Mr. Reece deliberately isolated from the thought trend in which it was written a passage in the production mentioned and then expertly twisted it about until he thought, or pretended, that it said that as a general policy this writer does not favor a program which seeks to secure for the Negro his legal rights.

PRIMA FACIE CONDEMNATION

But even set off and disconnected from the association in which it was written, the excerpt exposes the absurdity of the claim Reece tried to twist out of it. Repeated here is the passage criticized: "The chance of getting started towards a better life, more comfortable homes, and fairer employment opportunities for these masses should not be jeopardized for the sake of winning some fine points of legal rights that contribute more to the intellectual minority than to the solid benefits of the less articulate majority."

HAROLD pretends he thinks that language "counsels Negroes not to make too much bother about legal rights." It intimates only that there may be cases and conditions in which solid benefits for the masses may be obstructed or destroyed trying to win theoretical points of law out of which nothing more substantial is gained than the mental satisfaction of winning. A concrete case of this nature was under discussion at the time. Since Harold tried to deceive the public with half truths that case will now be reviewed.

THE ORIGINAL RELATION

Southern Congressmen of kinds were threatening, with great promise of success, to cut down, or entirely cut, appropriations necessary to maintain and extend the Federal Housing program, because they said "social equality" was being fostered through housing. Agitation about the Willow Run project was playing right into the strategy of these Southern Congressmen.

IN HOUSING facilities in the South—racially separate facilities—thousands of fine, average Negroes are enjoying modern comforts of living which they have never before been able to command. In the future thousands of others will be similarly blessed if the Housing Program continues after the war. If the program should be killed, even those already in the projects, will probably have to return to the slums. Harold Reece does not care if they do. At least it is clear that he is in favor of gambling their future comforts against the slim chance of the token, intangible satisfaction of only a few race people in the North living close to white people.

—VV—

There are plenty of white people who would appreciate our side of the story ... if they knew it!

THE HORIZON

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier

BY P. L. PRATTIS

One of Our Jobs Now Is To Eliminate Opposition of Catholics to Housing Projects

REFERENCE has been made in this space before to the necessity for Negro leaders to get together. It is of basic importance that these leaders come together under their own steam, frequently and for as long as necessary to map programs of action. Just as the leaders of the United Nations convened in Washington to plan the North African campaign and in Casablanca to map the offensive on Sicily, so must Negro leaders assemble to plan the use of their full force from time to time. They must be willing to pay their expenses and to give all of their time that is necessary. It is significant that Southern Negroes who held the first conference at Durham dug into their own pockets for all expenses. White leaders at Atlanta later did the same thing. And when the two groups held a third meeting, neither side looked around to see who was going to pay the bill. They paid it themselves, severally and individually.

Mr. Prattis

You certainly can't solve this race problem in a day. But you don't have to proceed as slowly as the proponents of the new theory of gradualism, such as Mr. Virginius Dabney and Mr. James Boyd, seem to infer. And you don't have to have an explosion in racial relations if you reject gradualism. There are important areas in which whites can be made to ... ground if responsible Negro

leaders will get together and decide when and where to apply the force.

HOUSING TROUBLE SPOTS AND ROMAN CATHOLICS

LET'S take an example. Let's consider a job for Northern Negro leadership. It is generally admitted that one of the sorest spots in racial relations is housing. Reports which have reached all the Negro newspapers indicate that in practically all the centers where housing friction has been most intense, there has been a large, vocal dissident element of Roman Catholics. The Roman Catholic church as a whole should not be blamed for this. In Detroit, there was a Catholic element which fought Negro housing. In Buffalo, there is a Catholic element which continues to fight housing for Negroes. In Boston, certain Catholic groups set themselves athwart plans for Negro housing. In Baltimore, the Catholics are given the credit for blocking a housing project for Negroes. Now if these reports on these obstructionist tactics of Catholic elements are true, there is a cut-and-dried front for the preparation of an offensive by Negro leadership in the North. The leaders of the Roman Catholic church in the United States are not against better housing for Negroes. The Conference of Christians and Jews (which includes Catholics) is not against such shelter. There are small minority ele-

ments in the church, some foreign-born, which are adding to racial tension in these Northern cities. Does anyone believe that these minorities within a church can prevail against the church leadership, fair-minded whites outside the church and Negro leadership? This writer doesn't. But what has any Negro organization done to assemble the facts as to this excrescence of prejudice among Catholics? That is the first job—to gather all the information possible about the four cities mentioned and all other cities where there have been similar manifestations.

SHOULD CONTACT HIGHEST OFFICIALS OF CHURCH

ONCE the information were assembled (and it can be easily and quickly obtained), it would seem that a second step might be made. This second step would call for the coming together of responsible elements of Northern Negro leadership (Southern, too, if this particular evil has reached into the South) to determine the exact use to be made of the information. It would seem, to this writer, desirable that Negro leadership should counsel with liberal white leadership all along the line as to any plan it might devise. This counseling would be for the purpose of uniting for this particular job responsible white and responsible Negro leadership. The next step, it seems obvious, would be for this combined Negro and white leadership to come to grips with the leadership of all the Roman Catholic elements in the entire area involved. These Negroes and whites, working together, would lay the evidence of guilt before the highest Roman Catholic officials and the liberal, progressive Catholic orders and societies. The responsibility would be placed on them for destroying these particular manifestations of racial prejudice within the church.

This writer believes that evidence easily available would force the leadership of the Catholic church to act. He is not too sure that the disease which has taken root in Detroit, Buffalo, Boston and Baltimore could be cured, but he is confident that the Catholic church could and would take steps to prevent the spread of this particular malady among its communicants. The ugly influence of Catholic minorities in housing situations involving Negroes can be destroyed.

MAY MAKE FRIENDS

IT IS important to bear in mind that this job could be done, not only without igniting an explosion, but also with the possibility of adding friends to the Negro's cause. The chances are that Catholics who once enlisted in the fight to stamp out this particular evil in their church would become more aware of the Negro problem as a whole and be prepared to do something about it. The first step must be taken by Negro leadership. It can be taken by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the March-on-Washington Movement, the National Urban league, the National Council of Negro Women, or any other national agency among us today or tomorrow. All the leadership of any particular agency has to do is to make up its mind to get the facts and to follow through with a winning campaign against the reactionaries within the Catholic church.

HITLER REAL ESTATE AGENCIES KEEP COLORED WALLED IN GHETTOS

Unhealthy Slave-Crowding Of Race One Of Nation's Prime Evils

Guardian
Boston, Mass.

By THE ROVER

The "No-Colored" clause in the code of the National Association of Real Estate Boards which allegedly instructs white agencies to bar colored people from living in "white sections" of cities and towns in America was strikingly exposed last week in a national weekly. Yet, how many real estate men will appeal to Washington? How many prospective buyers will demand their rights? Not too many.

"Race Reservations"

The most ignorant non-English speaking foreigner with all sorts of rackets is allowed to buy property in the very best of colored neighborhoods. Any white bootlegger, cheap drunkard or gangster must be barred from "respectable" white neighborhods, according to the National Association document exposed last week by the Courier. However, the Association would also exclude, quote, "a colored man of means who was giving his children a college education and thought they were entitled to live among whites." In other words, the worst of the whites can be dumped among respectable colored but the best of the colored must not be allowed to emerge from the ghetto. Like the American Indian the colored man must be confined to "race reservations." And for years we have meekly accepted that pattern. Today with the terrible shortage of decent housing, with the "colored districts" packed—jammed by overcrowding—with no room for expansion into the sacred "white districts"—we have a situation that is partially our own fault because it is of a "system" endorsed by some of our leaders. We now may see the real fruits of jim crow in America. Those who previously praised our "separate state" will sooner or later agree with William Monroe Trotter's immortal battle-cry: "Segregation for colored is the real permanent damning degregation in the U S A. Fight it!!

Jammed Before the War

Today there are probabl more colored workers with fat pocketbooks qualified to buy or rent decent housing thrughout America than at any time in our history. Taking full consideration of the fact that the housing shortage is bad even for white workers at this time, it's a thousand times worse for a group which is further handicapped by racial boundaries and limited "lists" from which to choose. Reports recently published indicate that the "unhealthy crowding" of colored from coast to coast is reaching alarming proportions. It is not simply due to inadequate housing for "increased war workers." Colored were jammed-packed into their little jim crow cubby-holes long before the war started, since jim crow real estate agreement against colored has been in effect for many years. Even a post war "boom in building" will not alone ease the situation inasmuch as you can only put comparatively few new housing units in crowded "race reservations" which can not expand, due to jim crow restrictive walls. The only logical act is to REMOVE THE WALLS. There will be no such walls even for foreign immigrants after this war!

Colored No Worse

To those who have seen "run - down neighborhoods" among our less fortunate white friends and compared the same with the well kept neighborhoods of progressive colored families, especially among those of Greater Boston, the fact is fast dawning that respectable colored families can do credit to any community just as well as a respectable white family. This primary truth can be appreciated by any First Grade pupil but is evidently beynd the grasp of some real estate mguls. These moguls hav every opportunity to "invstigate" their customers before doing business, as every client knows. It is hardly conceivable that any such mogul would make any "mistake" and place the "wrong" colored family next door to "respectable" white neighbors. We have reasons to believe that such "mistakes" are utterly impossible under the business codes of life-history-investigations that are conducted today. No, it isn't that the "aryan" pretenders are so much concerned with "mixing the wrong neighbors." They don't seem to care who they "mix" with colored neighbors, as we all know. The real reasons lie elswhere. And you can guess them.

Obey National Policy

The National Association of Real Estate moguls, in herding colored clients into ever shrinking "green pastures" is simply following, to the letter, the national policy of providing jim crow facilities fr our people in housing as we receive it in labor, in the armed forces, in education, and practically everything else. Moreover, this policy in housing will continue under federal as well as private agencies so long as we accept it without protest. It is a policy directed from jim crow headquarters with the full approval of every cracker, fascist and Nazi sympathizer in this country. If the colred man is to be "isolated" from other races the natural objective is to restrict and zone colored voting areas, colored social areas, and colored "freedom areas." The men in the real estate profession are in the powerful position to plan and to maintain the jim crow system in America because they are in control of housing the American people and nobody has yet successfully contested their policy of jim crowing colored persons, whether in the north or south. Colored real estate unions would be the logical forces to battle the National Association to a finish. Why the colored real estate organizations have not taken this case before the northern state or federal courts more often is a question. Even in St. Louis, the colored citizens ae not only taking such cases to the courts but also winning the decision. We in the north have been far too smug and satisfied for our own good.

Foreigners Will Profit

Every colored real estate agent reading this paper is fully aware of his losses in business due to his "restricted list" of rentals and sales. How many ambitious colored clients have been turned down from purchasing property because it was located in a "white district" only to see comparatively foreign whites move into the colored district and be allowed to buy or rent as they please—and as much as they please? Show me a colored real estate agent who is satisfied with this state of affairs and I will show you an uncle Tom advocate of the jim crow system. In the recent Harlem flare-up investigations it was found that so called "all-colored" Harlem had most of its business owned by white. If a rich Harlemite of color wanted to rent a home among whites he would be turned down under the unwritten code. Al Capone and other wealthy gangsters of the past could rent or buy property anywhere. Foreign royalists, peasants, ex-prisoners of war may come here and buy and rent anywhere after the war. Colored citizens will still be penned up in their little "patch."

May Be Crowded Out

There are some observers of the post war world who fear the increasing European immigration to America which looms in the future. Italy, for example, will be badly battered and poverty stricken and allready thousands of Italians express hopes of flocking to America to live and make money. The Greeks have fared as badly, if not worse, and there are a great many other European nationalities who plan, if possible to settle i this country. If they come they will have to have housing to live. even if it means crowding colored communities tighter than they are already. We need not evade the fact that foreign elements are usually banned from "respectable" white sections and invariably end up near or well within the colored section. The white real estate mogul dictates this policy and the colored real estate agent has very little to say about it. If this policy reaches its ultimate conclusion, the colored residents might ju[illegible] well give up their hom[illegible] ly and migrat to [illegible]

Keep Negroes Out, Is Edict of Real Estate Bd.

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Walter Lowenfels

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 12.—Negroes are put in the same objectionable class by the National Association of Real Estate Boards as bootleggers, gangsters, and madams who have "call girls" on their strings.

This shocking disclosure, which was made last week by the Pittsburgh Courier, has been confirmed to the Daily Worker by a prominent, local real estate dealer, who asked that his name be withheld.

In the document published by the NAREB, under a section dealing with "The Fundamentals of Real Estate Practice," instructions are given on "The Brokers Obligation to the Buyer." The following is a word by word copy of the paragraphs referring to Negroes:

"When, for example, in a respectable neighborhood a house is wanted for conversion to an objectionable use, no respectable broker will consent to represent the buyer.

"The latter might be a bootlegger, who would cause considerable annoyance to his neighbors, a "madam" who had a number of 'call girls' on her string, a gangster who wanted a screen for his activities by living in a better neighborhood, a colored man of means who was giving his children a college education and thought they were entitled to live among the whites, but no matter what the motive or character of the would-be purchaser, if the deal would instigate a form of blight, certainly the well-meaning broker must work against its consummation."

The powerful NAREB, which as the Daily Worker's Washington Bureau reported last week, is plotting a backstage attack on OPA rent control, has long been thought to be back of the practice of local Real Estate Boards in segregating Negroes in ghettoes and slum areas. But the document, which the Daily Worker is now able to present proof for the first time that these sinister practices are part of a nation-wide plot in direct violation of the Constitution, and of everything that the war is being fought for. It

likewise brings into the open the powerful forces behind the Jim Crow, Stuyvesant City project of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in New York City.

Revelation of the NAREB document is expected to result in a movement to force the NAREB to revoke its basic policy of treating Negroes as "a form of blight."

The National office of the NAREB is in Chicago, at 22 W. Monroe St. Its vice-president Rolland Randolf, is a candidate for City Treasurer in Philadelphia.

McNary Amendment Aimed at FHA Bias

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
OCT 16 1943

Director Admits Discrimination in Loan Policy, Approves Segregation

By JOE SHEPHARD

WASHINGTON

In a move to end racial discrimination in the Federal Housing Administration's expenditure of $1,116,000,000 under National Housing Act, Senate Minority Leader Charles McNary this week introduced an anti-discrimination clause to pending legislation calling for an additional $4,000,000 for the FHA program.

While FHA officials have repeatedly denied the existence of racial bias in the administration of the act, Abner Ferguson, FHA commissioner, last week described policies of his agency which have acted as an effective barrier to Federal financing of colored homes.

Mr. Ferguson, in a letter to Senator George Radcliffe (D., Md.), of the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, declared that agency's rules and regulations are drawn and administered without discrimination against any group or individual.

The same standards, he said, apply to applications for FHA loans for members of both races, and that the lack of racial distinctions in the records made it difficult to furnish complete figures on the number of properties owned or occupied by colored person.

Figures Belie Words

However, he cited figures from 26 of the FHA's 92 insuring offices which indicated a rejection rate of 7½ per cent on colored applications as contrasted with a rejection rate of 19 per cent for the entire program.

He also admitted the FHA does not take any action that would change the character of a neighborhood or tend to introduce inharmonious elements or depreciate property values.

This expressed policy of the agency immediately drew the fire of colored leaders. They contend that it places the stamp of Federal Government approval upon housing segregation, restrictive covenants and other devices restricting the right of colored citizens.

Text of McNary Amendment

Senator Radcliffe refused to support or to introduce an anti-discrimination amendment. Senator McNary's amendment, introduced at the request of Edgar G. Brown, reads:

"In the administration of the National Housing Act, as amended, and in making benefits available under the provisions of such act, as amended, there shall be no discrimination on account of

OCT 16 1943

U.S. Allots 44 Millions for Hospitals

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Funds Provide 13,000 Beds; Figures on Colored Missing

SEP 11 1943

FACILITIES ARE MAINLY JIM CROW

One Hospital Put Colored Patients in Basement

WASHINGTON

Office of War Information reports from the U.S. Public Health Service, the War Manpower Commission and the Federal Works Agency showing critical shortages in the medical and nursing professions and inadequate health facilities, fail to reflect the more acute health problem among colored people.

The figures of the Procurement and Assignment Service of the War Manpower Commission show that there is about one effective doctor for every 1,118 persons, a ratio considered desirable from the standpoint of health protection, but distribution is uneven and the ratio of colored doctors to colored civilians, which is far less, is not given.

Racial Figures Neglected

The survey gives no figures on the number of colored physicians taken into the armed forces or left to care for the colored civilian population. Nor does it show what efforts have been made to relocate colored physicians in communities where their services are badly needed.

Reference is made to the attack being made upon the problem of decreased medical care for the civilian population by an extensive enlargement of hospital and sanitation facilities, most of which are financed under the Lanham Act by the Federal Works Agency.

As of July 31, the FWA lists thirty-three new hospitals as wholly or substantially completed, at an estimated cost of $4,265,513, of which the government allotted $3,481,435. These new hospitals will supply an additional 1,615 beds for civilian care.

250 More Planned

Hospitals for which funds have been allotted total 250 and will cost $53,451,136, of which the government is paying $44,702,052. These hospitals will supply an additional 13,827 beds for civilian care.

Health centers are also financed with Federal and local funds with operation by local authorities. Of such projects, forty-four had been completed as of June 15.

The Federal Works Agency, under the Lanham Act, also finances an extensive child-care program and rehabilitation work in venereal disease rapid treatment centers.

None of these projects is broken down to show what additional facilities have been provided for the colored population under the Lanham Act.

Hint of Bias Given

A report of a survey in one locality, the name of which is not given, states that the only hospital for this community of 70,000 persons contained sixty-eight beds, of which eighteen were reserved in the basement for colored people.

Since colored doctors were not allowed to use hospital facilities, these beds were not often filled. On July 1, a new wing was started for this hopsital. It will contain thirty beds when completed.

Nurses quarters also are to be built, thus releasing thirty-five more beds in the hospital proper. But there is no disclosure of how many, if any, of these additional beds will be set aside for colored patients.

SEP 11 1943

Ala. Example Revealing

Another survey was made in January of an Alabama community whose population in three years had jumped from 13,171 to an estimated 25,000, plus an estimated 10,000 additional newcomers in the county. Munition works employ 11,800 workers.

To take care of this population, there are ten effective white doctors. No hospital is available for colored people.

Group Assails Jim Crow In Federal Jails

Amsterdam News
NOV 6 1943
New York, N. Y.

Cites Discrimination in U. S. Prisons In Banbury, Conn., and Lewisburg, Pa.

At a special call meeting at the Harlem Branch of the YMCA, October 28, the People's Committee under the leadership of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., unanimously adopted resolutions condemning jim crow practices in Federal Penal Institutions located in Danbury, Conn., and Lewisburg, Pa.

NOV 6 1943

The meeting was called in an effort to enlist aid for 17 white and one Negro inmate who have, the committee learned, gone on a voluntary work strike in protest of jim crow conditions at Danbury, Conn., and who have been sentenced to solitary confinement with only forty-five minutes a day for exercise and thirty minutes a month for visitations.

Discrimination Described

A vivid picture of the conditions there was described by Miss Ruth McAdams, Thelma Mielke and Abraham Kaufman. They told of the practice of separating Negro and White inmates in the mess-halls although the kitchen help of both races were permitted to eat together.

A further example of discrimination was brought out when the Negroes were told that Negroes and Whites were not allowed to shower together on Wednesdays although this barrier was let down and both races enjoyed showers together on Saturdays.

NOV 6 1943

The administration of these institutions, the Committee learned, held that such separation was to the best interest of the institutions. The kindness and fellowship displayed between the inmates, however, contradicts this contention.

It is the opinion of the Committee that these practices are undemocratic in times of war or peace and are not to be tolerated by the people of America who give service at home and abroad in defense of the American way.

NOV 6 1943

Further Action

The People's Committee instructed its legal department headed by Harrison S. Jackson, prominent New York attorney, to begin action at once as he sees fit to bring legal pressure and remedy of these appalling conditions existing in our U. S. Penal Institutions.

Further action in the matter is to be expected from a committee composed of Rev. Shelby Rooks, St. James Presbyterian Church; Walter White of the NAACP and Ben Richardson of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, Arthur Garfield Hays and others, who were appointed by Rev. Powell for the specific purpose.

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

Reveals Secret Ban On Negroes In Real Estate

OCT 8 1943

Disclosure was made this week by the Pittsburgh Courier of provisions in the journal of the National Association of Real Estate Board of which Cyrus Willmore is president.

The expose bore clauses from the journal contained instructions against real estate deals with Negroes classifying them as bootleggers, gangsters, madams' and undesirables as property renters leases owners.

The association is one of the most powerful ones in the country.

64-1943

GENERAL

10. No property in a white section should ever be sold, rented, advertised, or offered to colored people. In a doubtful case, advice from the Public Affairs Committee should be obtained.

(Washington, D. C. Real Estate Board's Code of Ethics, General Rules—Section 5, Page 23)

AGREEMENT REVEALS WHY WE CAN'T BUY DECENT HOMES

OCT 9 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. OCT 9 - 1943

A "secret document", vicious and un-American in content, and designed to forever keep Negroes in every part of the country confined to the "ghettoes" and slum areas of our metropolitan centers, has just been uncovered by The Pittsburgh Courier. The document, published by The National Association of Real Estate Boards, classifies Negroes in the same bracket with bootleggers, gangsters and "Madams", who might have a number of "Call Girls" convenient. The direct reference to Negroes is contained in an excerpt from the book under the section referring to "The Fundamentals of Real Estate Practice", in which are instructions dealing with "The Broker's Obligation to the Buyer." Here is an exact reproduction of the printed word:

Exclusive!

"When, for example, in a respectable neighborhood a house is wanted for conversion to an objectionable use, no respectable broker will consent to represent the buyer.

"The latter might be a BOOTLEGGER (Caps are ours) who would cause considerable annoyance to his neighbors, a "MADAM" (caps are ours) who had a number of "Call Girls" on her string, a GANGSTER (caps are ours) who wanted a screen for his activities by living in a better neighborhood, a COLORED MAN (caps are ours) of means who was giving his children a college education and thought they were entitled to live among the whites, but no matter what the motive or character of the would-be purchaser, if the deal would instigate a form of blight, then certainly the well-meaning broker must work against its consummation."

Another paragraph which exposes the slimy hypocrisy of those who would make it impossible for Negroes to better their living conditions reads thusly:

"At no time, however, may the honest and public-spirited broker consider the wishes of his client without giving serious consideration to the possible influence of the utilization on the surrounding community."

These particular references appear on pages 16 and 17, in the section of "Equipment of the Real Estate Broker," by Harry Grant Atkinson and Lester E. Frailey.

POWERFUL REAL ESTATE AGENCY

This national association looms as the most powerful real estate control agency in the country. Heading the association (they were elected November 19, 1942, at the convention in St. Louis) are: Cyrus C. Willmore, St. Louis, president; Herbert U. Nelson, executive vice-president; Percy Wilson, Chicago, treasurer; Loland R. Randall, Philadelphia, vice-president, Central Atlantic region, and C. Armel Nutter, Camden, N.J., director.

Headquarters are located at 22 Monroe street, Chicago.

The "secret document," which The Pittsburgh Courier is revealing for the first time, has national and international aspects.

It brings out into the open the nation-wide practice of restrictive covenants.

SHOWS FALLACY OF OUR DEMOCRACY

It answers bitingly the charges hurled by city officials of Detroit and State officials of Michigan that Negroes—including our more militant organizations and the Negro press—were responsible for the Detroit riots of the past summer.

It hurls into the teeth of white America, the fallacy of a democracy which shouts one thing from the housetops and practices another in everyday life.

It plunges its knife deep into the medical figures which attack the Negro's high death rate . . . disease infection and susceptibility to certain forms of illness.

It focuses the light of public attention behind the footlights of life's never-ending drama, and reveals why whites of foreign birth so readily subscribe to the theory of "racial superiority."

FOLLOWS HITLER'S ARYAN THEORIES

It runs along parallel lines to the Hitlerian philosophy of "ghettoes for the Jewish people" in Nazi-controlled countries on the Continent of Europe.

It expresses the reason behind the thinking of white America that all Negroes are alike, in that it closes the door of opportunity to those who wish to enjoy the privileges of those things their money can purchase.

And last, but not least, it proves that the wealth of the country is being used to keep the Negro in his "place."

This document, which places the Negro in an objectionable category . . . classifies him along with bootleggers, gangsters and "Madams" of houses of ill repute . . . is a disgrace to America and the ideals upon which the nation was founded.

It makes a laughing stock of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It makes mockery out of President Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms," of Wendell Willkie's "One World," of Vice-President Wallace's "The Century of the Common Man."

SLUR ON NEGROES IN ARMED SERVICES

It is unconstitutional, un-democratic, un-American! It is another concrete reason why Negroes are fighting for a "Double Victory . . . At Home and Abroad!"

It's a slap in the face to the 1,000,000 dark-skinned men . . . and women, too . . . who are in the armed services of the country . . . ready and willing to risk their lives for a decent way of life.

Something should be done.
Something MUST be done.
Something WILL BE DONE!

PM New York, N. Y.

Katherine Dunham Is Weary of Hotel Trek

"For the first time I am getting a little angry," Katherine Dunham, dancer, said when she arrived here the other day and found her management had been unable to reserve a hotel room for her because she is a Negro.

"It is gradually beginning to wear me down. Some of the kids in the company say they'd almost rather stop dancing than go through all this over and over."

After a short rest in Connecticut, she will return to make the usual trek from hotel to hotel in person asking for rooms so that she can conveniently start rehearsals at the Martin Beck theater Sept. 9.

San Francisco stands out like a shining light, she said. They gave her a three-room suite there at the Mark Hopkins, and she rented a charming apartment on Telegraph Hill and she ate wherever she pleased. The company had pleasant accommodations.

Cincinnati Experience

She stayed at the Netherlands-Plaza in Cincinnati, but this is what she said happened there:

Her stage manager had reserved the room. Not long after she moved in, Max Schulman, the manager, came and asked her whether she thought she'd better move because of what had happened. What had happened was that members of the AFL union of culinary workers had threatened to pull its members

Katherine Dunham

out of the Covington club in the hotel unless she moved.

"I have to think about my business—I have to think about after the war," said Schulman.

"If we don't win the war, your people and mine will be in the same fix," she answered.

He said he'd rented her room. She said she wouldn't move. And didn't. She stayed two weeks. Everyone was nice to her. She and Schulman had a long talk on discrimination against minorities.

"You think it will be better the farther north you go," she said. "Or that an art colony, for instance, will be more liberal. But it is not true."

'White Only'

In Portland, Ore., signs have sprung up—"We Do Not Serve Colored," or "White Only." And in Carmel, Cal., the tour before this last one, the Dunham company arrived to find the hotel reservations canceled, and not even an auto camp would take them in. (This time the hotels took them.) What she has learned as an anthropologist—she has lectured at Yale and UCLA—Miss Dunham said, has made her more tolerant of the foibles of the white race. It has worked the other way, too, making her more resentful of the ignorance of race that makes discrimination against Negroes possible.

"I am getting good and mad about it now because of the war," she said. "It would seem ridiculous if it were not so tragic."

When Miss Dunham entertains at camps, she always has to make a strong stand against segregated audiences. At Ft. Louis, where the commander himself backed her up in her insistence on mixed audiences, the Negro chaplain supported segregation.

SEP 5 1943

TREASURER OF ORGANIZATION NEVER HEARD OF INSULTING DOCUMENT

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa

By HUGH S. GARDNER
(Chicago Bureau)

CHICAGO—Following the bald expose made by The Courier last week of the "secret document" published by the National Association of Real Estate boards designed to keep Negroes in the slum areas in all of the nation's cities, the treasurer of ths organization, Percy Wilson local top bracket real estate broker with offices at 134 N. LaSalle street, said last week when contacted that he never once had given the Negro a thought in connection with real estate practices in the sale of properties in the exclusive sections of Chicago.

NEWS TO HIM

When an excerpt from the Section on Equipment of the Real Estate Broker, written by Harry Gant Aikinson, now an army captain, and Lester E. Frailey wherein Negro citizens were classed with "cat house" keepers and gangsters as being detrimental to the valuation of property, Mr. Wilson stated: "It's news to me . . . I never heard of it before."

Confronted over the telephone with the question as to his organization's attitude toward colored people buying in exclusive districts, Mr. Wilson declared, "There isn't much I can say . . . I can't tell from what you have asked of me," intimating that it would be necessary for him to see some of the organization's official documents before he would commit himself. The broker is also vice president of the Marshall Field company and general manager of that company's real estate division, former regional director of FHA and among other things, president of the Better Business association since 1938. He is an Onwentsia club member and maintains a home in Lake Bluff, Ill.

BIRTH OF COVENANTS RECALLED

Negro property owners and some lawyers recalled what they termed the birth of this nationwide effort to house Negroes only in city ghettos, and they say the movement began right here in Chicago following the celebrated Curtis Case of Washington, D. C., and the cases arising after it in Baltimore and Louisville, all three of which required U. S. Supreme Court decisions.

In the Curtis case the high court ruled that the people in the prescribed district had a right to say who should live in their district, whereas in the other two cases where whites sought to set up segregation ordinances, this was denied, but the explained denial seemed to point a way for restrictive covenants.

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ROLAND RANDALL WILL ASK BODY TO DISAVOW INSULT TO NEGROES

OCT 16 1943

By TALMADGE JACKSON
(Philadelphia Bureau)

PHILADELPHIA—The expose of a secret document prepared by Harry Grant Atkinson and Lester E. Frailey and published by the National Association of Real Estate Boards which classifies Negroes as undesirables along with bootleggers, gansters and madams does not come as a surprise to colored Philadelphians, for they have experienced extreme prejudices in dealing with white realtors, banks and building and loan associations.

RANDALL DISAVOWS PAMPHLET

The Courier contacted Roland R. Randall, chairman of the local housing commission and vice president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards concerning the pamphlet issued by that body reflecting on Negro people. He denounced the pamphlet and said that to his knowledge it had never been presented to the officers and directors of the association for their approval. He said he would immediately get in touch with other officers and directors of the association to see what could be done to disavow the insult to colored people contained in the pamphlet.

Randall referred to the fact that it was he who obtained the construction mortgage and a mortgage from the RFC for the Mason apartments after all other banks and agencies had turned any loan for this project down, and that he had done so without charging a commission. He further said that his entire record of his contact with Negroes indicates his disapproval of such bigotry and narrow mindedness.

A Courier reporter also contacted C. Armel Nutter, a Camden real estate broker, who is a director of the National association. He refused to make any comment.

LOCAL BOARDS DICRIMINATE

The local real estate boards as far as is known have nothing in their by-laws and regulations which prevents them from selling in any section to Negroes. But there is an understanding which amounts to an unwritten law that no realtor will sell a Negro property in a white section. If a member of any of the local real estate boards breaks a solid white block by selling to a Negro, it is an offense punishable by dismissal from the real estate board.

Real estate practice in Philadelphia is largely controlled by real estate boards, the most powerful of which are the Central Real Estate board, the West Philadelphia board and the North Philadelphia board. None of these boards will accept Negroes for membership. These boards not only control the real estate practices of banks, trust companies and building and loan associations, but of government agencies such as HOLC as well.

West Coast Housing Policy Opposes Any Discrimination

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia
3-27-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The general policy governing West Coast public housing, both slum clearance and defense, is opposed to any discrimination or segregation, according to a memorandum issued to local authorities by Langdon W. Post, regional director.

The memorandum, dated February 17, was made public last week by the racial relations division of the Federal Public Housing Administration.

The statement of policy affects housing in all the West Coast states and Arizona. It comes as an affirmation of a policy that has been practiced all along by most of the local authorities in the region.

In full, the memorandum read: "This is to inform you that it is the general policy of Region X of the Federal Public Housing Authority that there shall be neither discrimination nor segregation of minority groups on projects under its jurisdiction."

Mr. Post is the former tenement house commissioner in the first administration of Mayor Fiorella LaGuardia. He later became chairman of the city's housing authority.

12 UNITS BUILT

In carrying out the policies of Nathan Straus, former head of the U. S. Housing Authority, 12 public housing units were built in New York, financed in whole by federal funds. Negroes live in each of the units.

West Coast project directors have been faced with the racial problem in Vallejo, Cal., Seattle, Wash., and Marin City. In all cases the forces of democratic living won out.

Following a minor disturbance at Marin City, Guy A. Ciocca, executive director, wrote to each of the tenants in their weekly newsletter:

THE LETTER

"We must tell you that it is the policy of the management to house all Marin county shipyard workers for whom we have accommodations, irrespective of their religion, race, color, or position in the shipyards.

"We must further tell you that when any difficulty arises as a result of racial difficulty, the management will be forced to request the originator of the trouble to move immediately.

"All colors, all races, all people must and shall live here in peace and in such comfort as we can provide. The project is governmental property and its civic order must be well established."

64-1943

GENERAL

Philadelphia Tribune

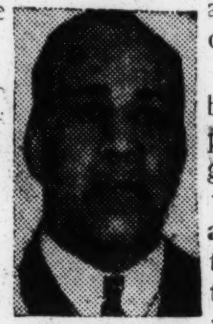
Philadelphia, Pa.

SEP 1943

By SAMUEL READING

ONE ADVANTAGE OF SEGREGATION

I had an unique experience the other night. I took some out of-town friends to a famous tavern, just so they could say they'd seen the place.



READING

I've always been suspicious about the policy in this place in sofar as race relations are concerned, notwithstanding the place is in a distinctly slummy Taboo neighborhood.

SEP 1943

The proprietor, whom I know personally, informed me that, while Taboos are served at the bar if they know how to behave themselves, the dining room and night club features are distinctly reserved "for whites only."

SEP

The proprietor depreciated this condition, he being of the race which is Mr. Hitler's pet peeve. But, said he, his patrons *and* this policy.

He very "graciously" invited me and my friends to witness the floor show from a special point of vantage, seeing as how he knew me, and my friends being out-of-towners wouldn't get the habit of going where they were not wanted.

SEP 11 1943

After about half an hour of this unusual experience, I realized for the first time in my life, there can be good in anything. I'm heartily glad our young men and young women are not welcomed in this place! Of all the filthy, smutty and perverted so-called theatrical junk I have witnessed in my long lifetime, my experience of last Friday night caps the climax. And don't let anyone tell you I haven't been places and seen things.

The interesting thing was that two of the star performers were of the Taboo persuasion. Yet the performances were reserved "for whites only." And this large gathering of superior Nordic patrons, many of them apparently husbands and wives, sat in maudlin joy and applauded some so-called jokes which smelled to high heaven—the kind of stuff that suggests cleaning your ear drums with disinfectant after absorbing an overdose of such obscenity.

SEP 1943

Maybe segregation isn't as bad as it appears to be—if it protects *some* of our boys and girls from such obscenity as we were subjected to. I was amused at the proprietor's effort to persuade us to remain "to see the rest of it. . . you ain't seen nothing yet," said he. He just couldn't imagine that we, being only Taboos, could possibly have seen and heard enough which was why we went elsewhere.

No place operated by Taboos would be permitted to produce a mess like that—no matter how badly the owners wanted to do so. They'd close the joint up pronto, even tho its patrons were only Taboos. There'd always be the fear that some unsuspecting whites might drop in and be polluted by

SEP 11 1943

I and my party felt distinctly superior when we got out in the good clean air. And they can keep *me* out of places like that for the few remaining years of my life—and thanks! Can you agree with me for once?

64-1943
Daily World
Atlanta. Ga.

GEORGIA

Gets Warning To Vacate Residence

FEB 14 1943

FEB 14 1943

"Get out. White man lives next door. Last warning. We hate Negroes."

This message was attached to a brick hurled through a window in the house of Son Smith who resides at 613 Argonne Avenue, N. E., according to radio patrolmen.

Investigating officers quote Smith as saying the brick and message were thrown through the window late Friday night.

City detectives are investigating.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
June 27, 1943

Housing Unit Near Savannah Opens Soon

The 425 Augustine Park housing project near Port Wentworth, about seven miles west of the city of Savannah, originally planned for Negro occupancy, will be made available instead to white workers, Robert K. Creighton, regional representative of the National Housing Agency, announced here yesterday.

The project, which is now virtually completed, will serve the employes of the MacEvoy Shipbuilding Corporation. There are 275 apartments for families of three or more persons and 150 apartments for two-person families.

PLANS STARTED MONTHS AGO ON NEGRO HOUSING

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

All Ready Except RFC's Final Approval.

BY AL CHASE.
(Real Estate Editor.)

Federal red tape has tied up Chicago's first large scale privately sponsored rental housing project for Negroes, it was learned yesterday. This is the Princeton Park development planned to occupy an 80 acre tract bounded by Wentworth avenue, 91st and 95th streets, and the Chicago and Western Indiana railroad.

Donald O'Toole.
[Moffett Photo.]

JUN 27 1943

First announced last October by Gael Sullivan, then state director of the federal housing administration, the big project has been dragging along with various government officials blocking progress wtih increasing demands and regulations, according to its sponsors.

Original Plans Reduced.

Originally planned to house 900 families, with an initial section of 250 homes, at an announced total cost of 4½ million dollars, the project now embraces a preliminary group of 230 units.

The FHA after months of negotiations issued commitments for construction, priorities have been granted, and all the necessary steps taken, except final approval of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, which is expected to finance the project.

Donald O'Toole of Donald O'Toole & Co., real estate operators and community developers, head of the group of Chicagoans comprising the Princeton Park Trust, owner of the land purchased from the Pullman company, declared that RFC "has enmeshed the deal in a discouraging tangle of red tape."

Site in Negro District.

The big project's site is almost surrounded by colored families and is from one-half to three-quarters of a mile from any white residents, O'Toole said. There was no opposition until a neighborhood newspaper published a petition, said to have been signed by 11,000 persons, protesting against the project and asking that the site be moved elsewhere.

Meanwhile, the sponsors learned that no life insurance company would finance the project and they turned to the RFC. And then the red tape began to be unreeled from the government spools and wound around the project. When this will be unwound no one knows, but O'Toole is hopeful that it won't be long.

Both governmental and civic bodies have interested themselves in the project. The Chicago Plan commission and FHA's land planning department supervised a layout of winding roads.

League Says Housing Needed.

The Chicago Urban league said Princeton Park is needed, as conditions are deplorable in the south side Negro districts, with not an apartment to be had and with cases of 10 persons living in three rooms and five in one room.

The national housing agency also has shown an interest in the project and is expected to make an announcement regarding it shortly.

O'Toole said that the site of Princeton Park is destined for a housing project and that it may as well be built now while homes are [illegible] demand.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Northwestern U Sued For Jimcrowing Student

CHICAGO (ANP)—Violation of the Illinois state civil rights law was inclu[illegible] among six counts against Northwestern University last week in the $50,000 damage suit against the school by Miss Robbie Shields, 26, because she was excluded from a university dormitory during the 11th annual Church and Choral Music Institute last August.

According to her lawyers, Miss Shields was elected as representative of the Woodlawn AME Church at the music institute when an invitation was extended to the Rev. Archibald J. Carey, pastor of the church. The minister mailed fiive dollars to the university as a deposit on registration and housing accommodations for Miss Sh[illegible] The u[illegible]ty acknowledged receipt of the money and advised the representative to report to Willard Hall.

Northwestern Dorms Bar Negro Students

"It is the policy and the unwritten law of Northwestern university to prohibit all Negroes from living in any dormitory or house on the university campus!"

This flat declaration of jim crow policy, uttered in somewhat heated fashion, was voiced Monday afternoon by H. L. Wells, faculty spokesman and business manager of Northwestern university, as he addressed a committee of three, composd of the Rev. Archibald J. Carey Jr., pastor of Woodlawn A.M.E church, Ira Latimer, executive secretary of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee and a representative of the Chicago Defender.

Purpose of the visit to the Evanston campus was investigation of a complaint by Miss Robbie Shields, 6449 Eberhart avenue, that she had been humiliated, chagrined and insulted, when, as a certified delegate from Woodlawn A.M.E. church, she applied for admission to Willard Hall, where arrangements for her had been made in advance and the bill paid in ful[illegible]

Represents Woodlawn Church

Miss Shields was to represent her church at the 11th annual Church and Choral Music Institute, August 1-6, and to take an active part in the meetings. She had been chosen for her leadership in the field of music.

The university officials had extended an invitation to Rev. Carey to send a representative, and in the light of subsequent developments, the committee was led to believe that when the invitation was extended, the school officials were unaware of Rev. Carey's racial identity.

When Miss Shields arrived at Willard Hall and presented her credentials which entitled her to accommodations during her stay on the campus, the girl desk clerk registered surprise as she saw that Miss Shields was of the colored race. Although Miss Shields' name was plainly written on the register, the desk clerk, although making several ostensible efforts, was unable to recognize the name.

Points To Her Name

Finally, Miss Shields pointed to her name, written legibly, and in plain view of the clerk, who was noticeably sparring for time, before making any decision.

Clerk Calls Director

Seeking a way out, the clerk asked Miss Shields to wait, then called the house director, Mrs. Alice M. Schwiebert, who after one glance at Miss Shields, informed her that a room had been reserved for her—but at the North Shore Community House, a rooming-place across town for Negro girls.

Arriving at the rooming-house, Miss Shields discovered that no advance arrangements had been made for her as stated by Willard Hall officials. Ruth Birt, the house mother at the rooming place, told Miss Shields that Mrs. Schwiebert had called her "just 15 minutes ago," asking her to accommodate Miss Shields.

When Miss Shields reported the matter on Monday, August 2, Rev. Carey, Latimer, and a representative of the Chicago Defender went at once to Evanston to see Miss Schwiebert at Willard Hall. She stated that she had acted under direct instructions from her immediate superior, Willard Buntaine, director of dormitories, and that she could take no responsibility for her action.

The committee then went to the office of Mr. Buntaine who admitted that it was he who gave the order to send Miss Shields away from Willard Hall at approximately midnight, to the North Shore Community House.

He stated that such was the policy of the school, and when asked if he could be quoted, curtly advised us that he would say no more, but that the matter should be taken up with H. L. Wells, the business manager.

Interviewed in his office, Mr. Wells immediately wished to know if the university had been informed that Miss Shields was colored. With the air of one who is about to corner a culprit, he demanded to know if anyone had hidden the fac and so deceived the school. When Rev. Carey informed him that all letters and the check for Miss Shields' tuition and housing carried the name "Woodlawn A.M.E. church," he expressed surprise that no one had 'caught' it.

In replay to questions, Wells was adamant that the decision to keep Miss Shields out of the dormitory would stand, and that other Negroes would be treated in similar manner.

Likes 'em on Plantation

In an attempt to impress members of the committee with his great humanity and democratic ideals, Wells said, "Don't tell me that I don't like colored people. In fact, I went down South and bought a plantation, where I employ a number of Negroes, and I know them as well as anybody."

He further stated that he would be one of the first to endorse a university program for mixed housing, "after the ground for such a move had been laid," but that they could not afford to "stir up trouble" now, because of the large number of southern students attending the university.

He said he believed Miss Shields had been done a great service by Northwestern university, when she was sent away from Willard Hall in the middle of the night to a colored rooming-house, for "We know that Negroes prefer to live with members of their own race," even when they are given the opportunity to make a choice. Miss Shields was not given the opportunity to make a choice.

When asked at the outset, if his statement that race discrimination as regards housing, is the school's policy might be quoted, and observing the Chicago Defender representative taking notes, he flushed and said that he would say no more, if he were going to be quoted.

In conclusion, Wells stated that he could speak for the president of the university, who sets the policy of the school, and other executives in declaring that it is a tradition at Northwestern university to bar Negroes from living on the campus.

President Franklin Snyder could not be reached by the Chicago Defender for a statement, but his secretary said that the president would, she felt sure, uphold and endorse any statement made by Mr. Wells.

When Wells refused to comment further, Rev. Carey said that it made no difference whethe. he talked or not, since the university is a tax exempt and a public institution, and citizens and taxpayers could get answers in the courts, if not in conferences.

Wells was told that the Woodlawn A.M.E. church would doubtless decide to institute legal proceedings against the university for violation of the state and Federal Civil Rights Statutes. Upon hearing this, Wells became greatly agitated, but answered that the university's attorneys would defend it against any such action.

A more reasonable attitude, when confronted by the committee, was taken by Oliver S. Beltz, director of the Institute, who had advised Miss Shields to participate only in the classes and to stay out of the choir, because of the presence of so many southerners at the university.

He conceded that he had made a mistake in so advising Miss Shields, and assured the committee that every courtesy would be extended her for the balance of the course.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Northwestern Bias to Face Test Suit

EVANSTON, Ill.—(ANP)—Patrick B. Prescott and Charles Leibman attorneys, indicated last week that they will soon file suit to test alleged dormitory discrimination at Northwestern University.

The [illegible]ns were made after the alleged barring of Miss Robbie Shields, Woodlawn choral director, from a room on property of the tax-exempt school when she registered at a recent choral institute.

Chicago Judge Says Lease Barring Group Is Invalid

Hits 'Herrenvolk Psychosis In

Appeal to Law

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgi

NOV 24 1943

CHICAGO — (ANP) — There is no place in this country for the Nazi "herrenvolk psychosis" and its discrimination against minorities, Municipal Judge Samuel Heller ruled

Wednesday. On that basis he rejected an attempt by a landlord to enforce a lease containing a clause barring Negroes.

The case was a suit in renters' court brought by Alice M. Chew, owner of lodging on the near north-side to oust Henry Reichard, lessee of the second and third floors. Reichard who is white, had rented rooms to Negroes, the bill charged, in violation of a clause in his lease specifically excluding them. The area is tenanted by a cosmopolitan population, chiefly people of modest means.

"The convenant contained in the lease," Judge Heller ruled, "is based on the theory of 'superior' and 'inferior' races and is an attempt to legalize the segregation of citizens lest the 'superior' one be contaminated by the "inferior" one.

HITS DISCRIMINATION

"This psuedo-philosophy is the basis of the minority problems confronting many nations, and no country has ever solved this problem through hate and discrimination. The Negro problem in the United States is no exception to this rule. Here, as elsewhere, racial prejudice is a double-edged sword. It violates the rights of helpless human beings, and it degrades those who indulge in it.

"The herrenvolk psychosis" has no place in a coutnry whose basic law is the United States constitution with it immortal bill of rights The constitution is not just a grant of paper rights to be brandished as a cover-up for the development of fascism in the name of democracy. Sophists and quibblers may bend it, twist it and emasculate it so that the constitution is transformed from a barrier against oppression to a legal front for the oppressor.

ENTITLED TO RIGHT

"The constitution of the United States is the basic law of a republic, which recognizes only one class of citizens. All are subject to the same obligations. All are entitled to the same privileges.

"Any attempt on the part of any citizen to deprive any other citizen of the enjoyment of any privilege by means of fascist slogans, such as 'Gentiles only' or "whites only" is repugnant to the spirit of the constitution and, therefore, should not be enforced in any court in any state of the union. Irving Mallison widely known Negro attorney was the lawyer in the case.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Ill.

COURT UPHOLDS LEASE BARRING NEGRO TENANTS

Municipal Judge Charles S. Dougherty yesterday, in effect, upheld the validity of restrictive clauses in leases forbidding Negro occupancy of property covered by the lease. He held that Henry Richard, 5234 Dorchester avenue, had violated the terms of a five year lease granted him last June by the Lake View Trust and Savings bank on property at 534-42 North Wells street by renting to Negroes. The ruling was contrary to one last month by Judge Samuel B. Heller in Renters court involving property at 412 North Clark street.

"I do not hold that restrictive covenants in leases are valid," said Judge Dougherty, "but a question of public policy is involved and I do not believe it is within the domain of the lower courts to decide on such a matter."

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

Judge Upsets Jim Crow Lease

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—The "herrenvolk Psychosis" of Jim Crow landlords was denounced in Renters' Court by Municipal Judge Samuel Heller when he rejected a landlord's attempt to enforce a lease clause shutting out colored people.

The judge's statement was made in the suit brought by landlord Alice M. Chew to oust Henery Richard, lessee of two floors of a lodging house at 412 N. Clark St.

Judge Heller's statement follows in part:

"The covenant contained in the lease, is based on the theory of 'superior' and 'inferior' races and is an attempt to legalize the segregation of citizens lest the 'superior' one be contaminated by the 'inferior' one.

"This psuedo-philosophy is the basis of the minority problems confronting many nations, and no country has ever solved this problem through hate and discrimination. The Negro problem in the United States is no exception to this rule. Here, as elsewhere racial prejudice is a double-edged sword. It violates the rights of helpless human beings, and it degrades those who indulge in it.

"The 'herrenvolk psychosis' has no place in a country whose basic law is the United States Constitution with its immortal Bill of Rights.

"The constitution of the United States is the basic law of a republic, which recognizes only one

"Any attempt on the part of any citizen to deprive any other citizen of the enjoyment of any privilege by means of Fascist slogans, such as 'Gentiles only' or 'whites only' is repugnant to the spirit of the Constitution and, therefore, should not be enforced in any court in any state of the Union."

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

SUCH DISCRIMINATION NOT IN SPIRIT OF THE TIME JUDGE DECLARES

Sought Restriction On Negro Residents In Area West Of Taylor Avenue

In a courageous and outspoken ruling, Circuit Judge James E. McLaghlin, Monday rendered a decision denying an injunction to a white neighborhood covenant group which would have restrained Negro citizens from dwelling in the 4500 and 4600 blocks on Enright avenue. He characterized his decision as an expression of the "trend of the time." in a world in the throes of a fight for the survival of Democracy.

Pointing out that between 1920 and 1940 the Negro population of St. Louis increased by 38,911. while the white had gained but 4240. Circuit Judge McLaughlin asked: :

"Where are we going to place these citizens?"

Speaking with judicious calmness, he stated:

"They must live somewhere. East of the area involved, property is occupied solely by those people and there is a sprinkling west and northwest. The surge of both whites and Negroes has been toward the west. Conditions have changed in the 20 years since the restrictive agreement was signed.

"While there were no Negro residents in the area in 1928. there now are 19 which own and occupy homes."

Decision Is Important

The decision of Circuit Judge McLaughlin was considered far-reaching since that there are still some 17 property restriction cases awaiting decisions in the courts.

The McLaughlin decision grew out of an injunction suit filed by the Trustees of the Real Estate Exchange after the families of George Spotts, Lorenzo Blanton and Lawrence Holland moved into the district brings the number to about 12 families dwelling there since the influx began in 1940. The plaintiffs as Trustees for the owners of the properties, relied upon the renewed covenant of 1938 to oust them the Spotts and Blantons, and on the 1923 Convenant to ousts the Hollands.

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Sees Chicago Conditions Spark for A

I read your paper and all others, white and colored. All agree that the crowded living conditions in the major cities is the cause of so much racial strife, and you say "It won't happen here."

Well, I want you to know it CAN happen here, because, at the present time, living conditions here are worse than any city I've been in.

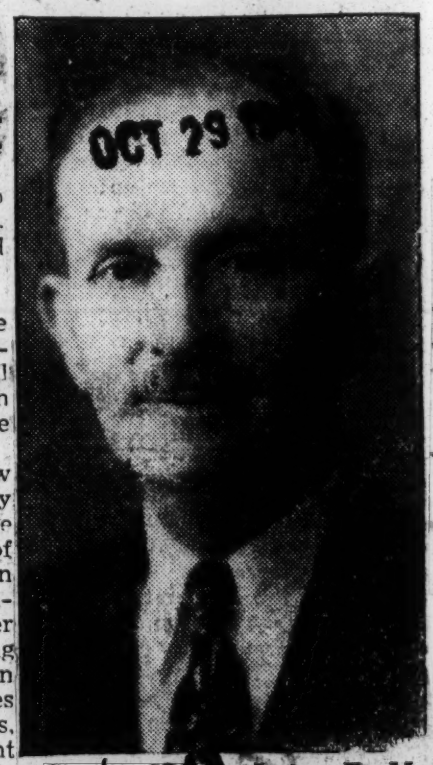
I am a pullman porter and I go all over the country in cities small and large, and I find conditions the same in all but the West Coast cities. I have a family of five and for the last eight years I have had six or seven-room apartments. Now I find myself with no place to live. My family is scattered all over the city; $1,700 worth of furniture in storage and my wife and I living in a rented room.

The ministers and leaders conferring with the mayor and governor to appeal to the people to be tolerant, but do nothing to relieve the condition. Colored people are begging for flats and apartments, even offering rewards and praying for a place to live, while in the white neighborhoods there are apartments by the hundreds to be had, and no one to take them. They are not for rent to the Negro.

Someone should wake up and look around in Chicago they want to avoid trouble here, because it is more serious than you realize. — Norfleet Nolliwell, Chicago, Ill.

Argus
St. Louis, Mo.

Denies Injunction



Circuit Judge James E. McLaughlin, Mo. Tuesday, denied an injunction to restrict Negro citizens from residing on Enright avenue, west of Taylor avenue, He termed his decision as reflecting the spirit of the times.

N. U. Keeps Jim Crow In Dorms

Defender
Chicago, Ill

Absolute refusal to back down on its jim-crow policy of barring Negroes from living on the campus was voiced by Northwestern university officials late Thursday.

The announcement, which also included a pledge to defend the discriminatory action in the courts, was made by Ralph K. Ball, attorney for the institution. He made known the university's defiant attitude in a conference with Rev. Archibald J. Carey Jr., pastor of Woodlawn A.M.E. church, and two lawyers, Patrick B. Prescott, former judge of the municipal court, and Charles Leibman, general counsel for the Chicago Civil Liberties Union.

Prescott and Leibman have been retained by the church to handle the case of Miss Robbie Shields, who was recently denied admittance to residence in the women's dormitory of the school. Miss Shields is director of the young people's choir at the church.

Philadelphia Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Prejudiced Realtors Bar Colored Renters

— Charges that the practice of double shifts in full Jim Crow real estate law or part time means that children preventing rental to colored go to a day, families outside of a specific area has resulted in double shifts for 16 schools attended by colored children were made this week by Amy Eahgren, secretary of the Citizens School Committee.

Miss Eahgren said that the practice of double shifts in full or part time means that children go to a day, thus encouraging juvenile delinquency.

Chicago Judge Says Lease Barring Negroes Invalid

Jall Kansas City, Mo

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — There is no place in this country for the Nazi "herrenvolk phychosis" and its discrimination against minorities, Municipal Judge Samuel Heller ruled Wednesday.

On that basis he rejected an attempt by a landlord to enforce a lease containing a clause barring Negroes.

The case was a suit in renters' court brought by Alice M. Chew, owner of lodgings on the near northside to oust Henry Reichard, lessee of the second and third floors.

Reichard who is white, had rented rooms to Negroes, the bill charged, in violation of a clause in his lease specifically excluding them. The area is tenanted by a cosmopolitan population, chiefly people of modest means.

"The covenant contained in the lease," Judge Heller ruled, "is based on the theory of 'superior' and 'inferior' races and is an attempt to legalize the segregation of citizens lest the 'superior' one be contaminated by the 'inferior' one.

"This pseudo philosophy is the basis of the minority problems confronting many nations, and no country has ever solved this problem through hate and discrimination. The Negro problem in the United States is no exception to this rule. Here, as elsewhere, racial prejudice is a double-edged sword. It violates the rights of helpless human beings, and it degrades those who indulge in it.

"The 'herrenvolk psychosis' has no place in a country whose basic law is the United States constitution with its immortal bill of rights. The constitution is not just a grant of paper rights to be brandished as a cover-up for the development of fascism in the name of democracy.

"Sophists and quibblers may bend it, twist it and emasculate it so that the constitution is transformer from a barrier against oppression to a legal front for the oppressor.

"The constitution of the United States is the basic law of a republic, which recognizes only one class of citizens. All are subject to the same obligations. All are entitled to the same privileges.

"Any attempt on the part of any citizen to deprive any other citizen of the enjoyment of any privilege by means of fascist slogans, such as 'Gentiles only,' or 'whites only' is repugnant to the spirit of the constitution, and, therefore, should not be enforced in any court in any state of the union." Irving Mallison widely known Negro attorney was the lawyer in the case.

Restrictive Covenants.

See (Magazine Section

AGAIN the undemocratic practice of restrictive covenants has evidenced itself on Chicago's near north side—600-610 North Wells street, because of race.

This building was opened to Negroes on August 1. For many Negroes this was sorely needed relief from the grinding ordeal of seeking a place to live. No sooner had they begun to settle comfortably in their new quarters, the restrictive clause which forbids the rental of the property to Negroes, was made known to them.

Charles Bender, the owner of the property, insisted on the terms of this iniquitous clause, depriving Negroes living accommodations on account of their race. Judge Frank Padden issued an injunction restraining the lessee, Henry F. Reichard of 5234 Dorchester avenue, from "further violation of the terms of the lease." This will mean that Negroes no longer may be permitted to rent these premises. The present occupants must move when their present rental leases expire.

It has been reliably reported that 85 per cent of the 27 families are represented by one or more war plant workers. What does this mean? It means that by this vicious act of denying living accommondations to these 27 Negro families, that not only will this provide absenteeism caused by the imperative of seeking living quarters for the future, but has added fuel to the growing embers of pernicious racial misunderstanding.

SEP 5 1943

Chicago, Ill

Negroes today are tramping over Chicago like nomads looking for a place of abode for their families. The greatest bar to their success is the written or implied weapon, the restrictive covenant, which impels us in many cases to live like cattle. We strongly recommend that the Interracial Committee will insist on immediate action to alleviate this menacing condition.

APR 4 1943

BOOK33402PAGE 1

RESTRICTIVE AGREEMENT AGAINST NEGROES COVERING CERTAIN PROPERTY ADJOINING AND LOCATED WITHIN THE FOLLOWING BOUNDARIES:

The North side of 47th Street
The East side of Lake Park Ave.
The North side of Hyde Park Blvd.
The West side of Drexel Blvd.

APR 4 1943

APR 4 1943

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN TOWNSHIP 38, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE 3rd PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

BOOK33402PAGE 54

64

54

AND, WHEREAS, the parties hereto feel that the restrictions and covenants hereinafter imposed and created are for the best interests of all the parties hereto and of the property hereinbefore described.

IN CONSIDERATION of the premises and of the mutual covenants made, and of the sum of Five Dollars ($5.00) in hand paid to each of the parties hereto by each of the other parties hereto, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, each party as owner of the parcel of land above described immediately under his name, does hereby covenant and agree with each and every other of the parties hereto, that his said parcel of land is now and until January 1, 1958, and thereafter until this agreement shall be abrogated as hereinafter provided, shall be subject to the restrictions and provisions hereinafter set forth, and that he will make no sale, contract of sale, conveyance, lease or agreement and give no license or permission in violation of such restrictions or provisions, which are as follows:

1. The restriction that no part of said premises shall in any manner be used or occupied directly or indirectly by any negro or negroes, provided that this restriction shall not prevent the occupation, during the period of their employment, of janitors' or chauffeurs' quarters in the basement or in a barn or garage in the rear, or of servants' quarters by negro janitors, chauffeurs or house servants, respectively, actually employed as such for service in and about the premises by the rightful owner or occupant of said premises.

2. The restriction that no part of said premises shall be sold, given, conveyed or leased to any negro or negroes, and no permission or license to use or occupy any part thereof shall be given to any negro except house servants or janitors or chauffeurs employed thereon as aforesaid.

57

BOOK33402PAGE 57

7. 4853 Kimbark Ave

~~Helen S. McKibbin~~
~~George B. McKibbin~~

APR 4 1943

EE PROBE REVEALS NAME ON HOMES BAN

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

The roseate, but PROVED false, promises of George B. McKibbin, the Republican candidate for mayor of the City of Chicago to ensnare Negro votes on election day, Tuesday, April 6, will be of little value when Negroes of this great metropolis perform their American duty and exercise the right of ballot.

McKibbin, who promises to do away with South Side "evils" has been exposed by The BEE as one of the signers of the restrictive covenant petition which has successfully bottled a large number of Chicago's 300,000 Negroes into overcrowded ghettos where sub-standard, unsanitary living conditions prevail.

Among First to Sign.

A photostatic copy of the petition is printed on this page. McKibbin and his wife were among its first signers.

That is why Chicago's Negroes will march det[illegible]y to the polls Tuesday, April 6, and cast a strong vote of protest against the one man who in the guise of a "friend" [illegible] asks their support.

APR 4 1943

The restrictive covenant petition is a matter of record.

Circulated in 1935, it was filed on "or before December 31, 1936" and is available to those doubters who need proof.

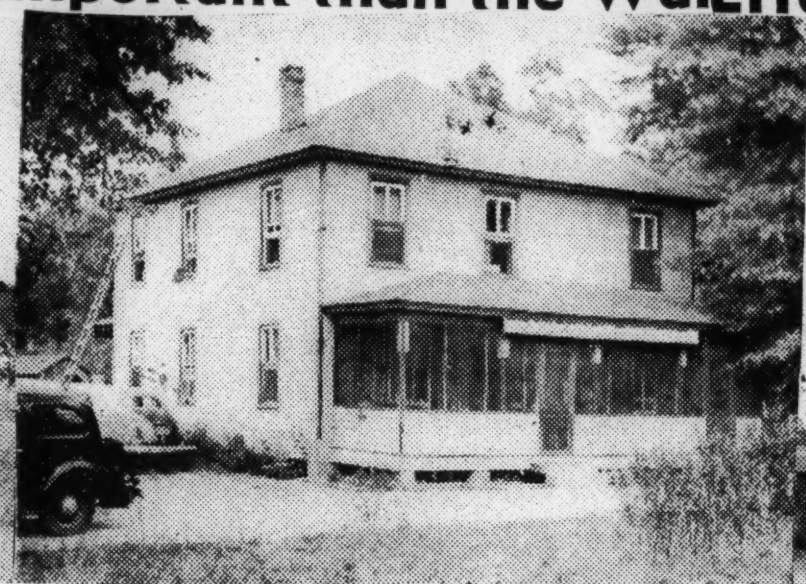
Matter of Record.

A perusal of records in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Cook County, Illinois, contain the "covenants, restrictions and agreements," prohibiting the "use or occupancy of all or any part of said premises by a negro or negroes." (The small "n" is used consistently throughout the petition.

(See photostatic copy of restrictive covenant petition for area included).

APR 4 1943

Segregation More Important than the War Effort at Indianhead Maryland



Prejudice in Indianhead Costing U.S. Thousands

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

INDIANHEAD, Md.—Although this little town just thirty miles south of the nation's capital is the site of the Naval Powder Factory, it clings tenaciously to an attitude of "prejudice as usual" at a tremendous cost in both dollars and war production.

The most concrete expression of this attitude is found in the community's housing situation. Approximately 100 federally constructed housing units stand idle while powder factory personnel officials vainly canvass the colored community in an effort to obtain quarters for colored workers who must be brought in if the factory's manpower needs and production schedules are to be met.

100 Idle Units

The 100 idle units, located in the 300-unit FHA constructed war housing project at Glymount, approximately two miles from the powder factory, were programmed and completed over a year ago.

Original plans called for the allocation of 100 of the units to colored workers, but following completion of the project "community pressures" developed which led to the abandonment of the original plan.

The nature of these alleged "pressures" or the persons instigating them have never been made public. All that is admitted about them either in Indianhead or in Washington is that they resulted in the vacancy of 100 sorely needed houses which have been ready for occupancy for more than a year.

"Pressures" Cited

Discussing the situation one Washington housing official said: "These pressures spring up, it isn't always possible or expedient to say just who is behind them. Sometimes they arise just when an important appropriations bill is under consideration, then you know the answer."

The answer is the Indianhead situation is that the Federal government is now conducting negotiations for purchase of a thirty-acre tract located about a mile from the Glymount project.

When and if these negotiations are completed the 100 idle units will be moved to the new site and made available to colored occupants.

No Bids Made Yet

The estimated cost of this operation has not been made public. Joseph H. Brown of Indianhead, son of the owner of the land for the proposed "colored project," says that the land has been surveyed, but that no bids have been made nor any contracts signed.

FPHA information relative to the project is being withheld pending the arrival in Washington of C. L. Winston, regional director.

The disputed units of the Glymount project are located at present in a corner of the project which is adjacent to property occupied by the majority of Indianhead's small colored population.

Can't Bring in Workers

In the meantime, plans for the importation of colored workers for the powder factory from other sections of the country have been stymied by the lack of housing available for them in the vicinity.

The majority of colored workers employed at Indianhead live in other parts of Southern Maryland and in Washington, coming to work in their own cars, in trucks, and in about ten busses operated by the government for that purpose.

The above are views taken at Indianhead, Md., site of the Naval Powder Factory, where, despite a need for housing for colored war workers, 100 Federally-constructed housing units remain empty because of community desires to maintain housing segregation.

At the left is shown the home of Gus Brown, one of the colored residents of the community with whom the government is now conducting negotiations for purchase of a 30-acre tract of land, to which will be moved the 100 empty units from the project shown in the center.

The empty units were originally programmed for colored occupants, but despite the fact that the entire project adjoins property inhabited by colored residents, colored workers have not been permitted to move into the homes which have been ready for occupants for more than a year. Lack of housing for colored workers is severely hampering the efforts of the powder factory officials to obtain needed workers.

At the right is shown the Progressive Hotel, operated by the aged Mrs. Minerva Hancock, who says that she is unable to care for more than seven or eight boarders, because of inability to obtain help in the community. This hotel offers the sole possibility of obtaining lodgings for colored transients in the community.—Shephard photos.

64-1943

Maryland

Another Delay In Baltimore Hous'g

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

BALTIMORE — (ANP) — A further delay and "vacillation" on the part of the city officials has developed in the program to construct 1200 units of new housing for in-migrant war workers here as a result of the announcement of Mayor McKeldin that he plans to hear the objections to the housing project on Tuesday and the proponents on Wednesday.

Ten days ago, a delegation of labor, religious and civic leaders went to Washington and told National Housing Administrator John B. Blandford that it was now up to him to move. He guaranteed them that the project would go ahead quickly, and the Herring Run and Philadelphia Read site agreed upon by the city planning commission and the mayor's interracial committee on housing for Negroes. The Baltimore Housing authority, lone holder-outer, was expecting to fall in line. It didn't.

Federal funds earmarked for housing, under wartime conditions, now permit the Federal Public Housing Administration to determine the need, select the site and begin construction without the aid or approval of local authorities, whereas in the low-rent program of pre-war days, this was not the case. The current argument has been going on for a year and is now in its show-down stage.

Politics is beginning to evidence itself. The BHA was appointed by Mayor McKeldin's predecessor, which may account for obstinacy. McKeldin is a Republican and is said to have an eye on the governorship. Congressman H. Street Baldwin of the 2nd district, which embraces the site proposed for the project, is a Democrat and is understood to have similar aspirations. The latter has said that there is no need for bringing Negroes to Baltimore to work although the War Manpower Commission lists Baltimore as a shortage area.

JUL 23 1943

'Discourtesy' at BHA Office Hit by NAACP

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

BALTIMORE — "Discourteous and inconsiderate" treatment of colored visitors and applicants by the receptionist at the central office of the Baltimore Housing Authority was charged by the NAACP in a letter last week to Yewell W. Dillehunt, director of the body.

The letter, signed by Randall L. Tyus, executive secretary, said that within a period of a half-hour Wednesday three persons came into the NAACP's office, 402 Dolphin Street, and registered complaints about "ugly and nasty" treatment accorded them at the BHA office.

The complainants, according to the letter, were Wendell Duckery, 713 Dolphin Street; Mrs. Herbert Alston, 1439 N. Bond Street; and Roger E. [illegible]field, 1120 Somerset Street. Each has [illegible] workers in his or her family and is in dire need of better housing, it added.

Demand Equal Treatment

"We protest this treatment of these people, first on the grounds that they are citizens and are entitled to every consideration that any citizen is entitled to at the Baltimore Housing Authority," the letter said.

"In the second place, they are under-housed people and overworked because, in the case of Mrs. Alston, she has to walk over a mile and a half to take her child to the home of a friend who keeps the baby because there is no day nursery in East Baltimore."

The letter suggested that if the present staff is not able to serve the public courteously, it be replaced with one that is more qualified to do so.

AUG 28 1943

NOV 27 1943

Baltimore Negroes Act on Housing

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y

SEP 1 1943

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—A delegation of leading Negroes in Baltimore met this week with high government officials to protest failure by Federal authorities to take housing action in behalf of the thousands of Negro workers who have swelled that city's great war-work population. The delegation which was led by the Baltimore branches of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People and the Urban League conferred with Jonathan Daniels, administrative assistant to the President and Herbert Emerich, Commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority.

The group told Daniels that Negro war workers have moved into Baltimore at the rate of 2,000 a month for the past year. It was pointed out that while Negroes constitute 20 per cent of the city's population, they are crowded into less than 7 per cent of its living space.

"The Federal government," the delegation declared, "has the manifest duty, and power, to erect the necessary war housing to relieve a situation which seriously threatens the health, welfare and morale of the community, notwithstanding opposition to the project by certain local financial and political interests that are anti-Negro."

The National Housing Agency had approved a 2,000-unit housing program for Negro occupancy last February. Opposition by anti-Negro forces had frustrated all efforts to select a suitable site. In July a delegation representing 30 Negro and white church, civic and labor organizations met with John B. Blandford, Administrator of the National Housing Agency, and Commissioner Emmerich. At that time the officials had announced their determination to construct a project for permanent housing on a site known as Herring Run. The Baltimore City Council opposed the site, however. Senator Millard E. Tydings (D. Md.) and Congressman H. Street Maldwin (D., Md.), it is reliably reported, were so bitter in their opposition to a housing project for Negroes that they even went to Federal housing officials.

In the conference with Commissioner Emmerich he told the group that his agency had no authority to construct permanent housing without the consent of the city. It did, however, have the power to, and would, build temporary war housing. Emmerich declined to state what site for such temporary housing would be selected and when work would begin.

SEP 1 1943

64-1943
Guardian
Boston, Mass.

JIM CROW HOUSING IS UNFAIR TO HUB SOLDIERS

MAY 1 1943

BIG NAACP BATTLE LOOMS THROUGHOUT BAY STATE

MAY 1 1943

By MABE KOUNTZE

A dreaded post war tragedy looms when our Colored troops come marching home again. Thousands of dusky doughboys will return to American cities and towns in hopes of settling down with their war brides only to be told that they can not live in certain private dwelling areas, that they can not lease or rent rooms in many hotels and that only a pitiful few and inadequate federal housing units have been "set aside for Colored."

MAY 1 1943

Heroes Denied Homes

This impending tragedy can not be revealed too soon. It is a possibility realized by every alert white and Colored real estate business man today. Colored real estate dealers in the eBay State should join the current NAACP campaign to destroy "Hitler-Housing" here before it is too late. No amount of crowding in with relatives after the war will solve the home-coming soldier problem. They will want their own homes and will have the money to buy. But the sale and rental field will be so limited in scope that every real estate dealer will have reason to be ashamed. In fact, it is a discredit to the Bay State that our housing system is being patterned after that of Mississippi and Georgia. It is a frightful reward for our returning war heroes and the post war increased city concentration of Colored. Even if there should be so-called "post war rebuilding program" their will be limited housing for Colored.

MAY 1 1943

Mayor Tobin's Duty

The current NAACP campaign to halt Hitler housing in the Bay State will largely determine whether the system is to be increased throughout the rest of the nation. This is a national issue fully important as the Battle of Bunker Hill. It will largely determine the post war liberties of the American Colored citizen. It will certainly determine whether or not this war has been worth the sacrifice of our people. Any one who looks upon the Boston housing situation as being a minor issue need only apply to the nearest Colored real estate dealer whose "lists" have been "rationed" for years, not because of the lack of housing but rather because of the limited housing assigned to Colored clients. As long as this system exists the Colored real estate agent, regardless of his ability and high ideals, will never make much headway. He can never suitably satisfy his customers. Nor will added concentration of Colored in small living areas contribute to the health and morale welfare of Hub citizens. It never has and there is no reason to believe it will after the war. Our soldiers have every right to raise their families in the very best conditions in our democracy. Our Mayor and Governor should see to it that they have a chance. Both should enlist in the present NAACP drive or explain why. If it is the duty of Colored boys from Massachusetts to defend our democracy at the front, it is the duty of Mayor Tobin and Governor Saltonstall to defend the democratic privileges of our boys here at home.

MAY 1 1943

Should Live Anywhere

This is not a thesis advocating that all Colored citizens move into "mixed" communities. Some would not prefer that while others would. Under a democracy it is every man to his personal choice. I personally agree with Mrs. Roosevelt that it is wrong to foster nations within our nation" and thus there really should not be any Greek communities, Italian communities, Jewish communities, and Colored and white communities. The reason the races have so much difficulty in getting along together in this country is this very isolation policy of the various people. If all lived together in a mixed community, working and playing together, we would have no more of the unnecessary "misunderstandings" and superiorities that are prevalent at present. When a people crowds itself into isolated blocs then we all know by experience how that people becomes exploited and hindered and limited in progress. The people of Boston should know this from politics alone, if nothing else. "Segregation" has not helped elect many Boston men to office and Colored gains in politics here will only result from greater understanding, appreciation and cooperation of a mixed society. When a Colored judge is elected in Boston, he will be a man admired as well by other groups and not by any solid race influence. The allowance of segregated policies to seep into Boston has only hurt our people. Segregated housing will do the same.

MAY 1 1943

Colored on Beacon Hill

If our current war workers of color should desire to move into the communities of their white worker friends, why should they be refused if able to pay and of good repute? Horeover if certain Colored business and professional men of outstanding success and money should desire to live on Beacon Hill—as they may some day, what grounds of argument is there? True, one white agent once told me that if my Colored clients moved into his apartment house all of his white tenants would pack up and leave. Well, even so they could have at least at that time easily found many other apartments open to them. The Colored applicants have very few choices to make. Yet, actually very few white tenants would leave in the majority of cases if the really fine Colored applicants, many of them state and government employees or holding good private employment jobs, had been accepted. The old bugaboo about all Colored tenants being bad risks is of course the bunk. I have seen white tenants far worse. Moreover you could depend on the real estate agent to be mighty careful of the people he sent to a mixed residential area. After all, the results are to his business interest. All in all, the housing barriers against Colored people are quite un-American and for this reason alone, should be eliminated.

64-1943

Refuse To Change Housing Order In Detroit's Muddle

March 13, 1943

WASHINGTON.—(ANP) — Herbert Emmerich of the National Housing administration tacitly gave governmental approval to segregation and jim-crowing of minority groups in houses built with federal funds when he refused to change his attitude toward the Detroit delegation visiting his protesting against the barring of Negroes from the new Willow Run houses to be built in the automobile center.

Built expressly for defense workers, these houses originally were to serve both races, but recently a change was made and the Willow Run project specifically designated for white occupants. This had not occurred before in the Detroit area and the civic minded citizens, remembering the fight over the Sojourner Truth houses, immediately swung into action.

Organizing a protest meeting, they made appointments in Washington and descended militantly on the capital on Tuesday. They talked with Emmerich, who refused to retreat from the stand he had previously taken.

Hearings before the house subcommittee are believed responsible for the attitude adopted by the housing administration official Southern congressmen, controlling the disposition of funds for the housing program, browbeat officials and administrators of the organizations, injecting racial feeling into the matter at every possible chance.

NAACP Asks Housing Body Probe Of Detroit Jim Crow

February 19, 1943

DETROIT, Michigan—(SNS)—A report that Negroes are to be segregated into 300 units of the Eight Mile Road Housing Project here and barred entirely from the Willow Lodge Project was relayed this week by the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to its national office for investigation.

The NAACP wired Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the National Housing Agency, Washington, D. C., to verify the announcement and ask if it met with that office's approval.

"Will you also advise us if the following are correct," the NAACP asked, "that the Ford Motor Company, the United Automobile Workers CIO, and all other parties to the situation favor bi-racial occupancy of dormitories in other housing units; that Mr. Reed and Col. Stark also favored such arrangement and reported to you that employees' unions and others favored such procedure; that despite these facts you vetoed local plans for non-segregation, non-discriminatory occupancy, and

Michigan

ordered segregation at Eight Mile Road Project and barring of all Negroes from the Ypsilanti Project. If these facts are correct, we believe a serious mistake has been made. Vacillation of housing authorities and the yielding to pressures by the National Workers League and other groups since indicted by federal government in Sojourner Truth Project led to disorders, photographs of which are now being used by axis agents among Arabs in North Africa to great embarrassment of General Eisenhower in prosecution of war. **To avoid similar trouble, we ask you to reverse immediately decision enforcing segregation and discrimination if such decision has been made."**

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

Willow Lodge Homes Barred To Race's Use

MAY 22 1943

Church, Labor, Civic Leaders Seek Parley on Ford Area Dispute

MAY 22 1943

By JOHN WOOD

DETROIT, (ANP)—Surpassing in importance the Sojourner Truth housing fight, and breaking into the national spotlight almost on the anniversary of the famous riot of last Feb. 28, the fight for interracial occupancy of Willow Lodge homes, near the Ford bomber plant in Ypsilanti, Mich., gained momentum this week as a delegation, headed by the NAACP, left Tuesday to confer with housing officials in Washington and influential white people sought to divide Negroes on the issue of segregation.

Following an announcement by Sherry Reeder of the FPHA that Willow Lodge homes will be closed to Negro war workers, and a similar announcement by the Detroit Housing commission that a project on Eight Mile Road has been designated for Negroes only, representatives of organized labor, the church and civic groups sought an immediate hearing with John B. Blandsford, Jr., for a showdown on the Willow Lodge dispute. Tentative date of the conference with the Detroit delegation was set for last Friday, Feb. 26, but Blandsford's office wired the NAACP that the conference had been moved up to Tuesday of this week.

MAY 22 1943

War Effort Hit

The committee will seek to show federal housing authorities that time spent trying to establish a patern of segregated housing in Michigan is holding up the war effort, and that to deny Negroes the right to live in Willow Lodge not only violates their constitutional rights but denies them the right to participate fully in the prosecution of the war. The committee will also show that the Truman committee, investigating labor conditions here last week, reported that the manpower shortage at Willow Run bomber plant is due to an acute housing shortage. The NAACP takes the position that the findings of the Truman committee indicates that the denial of the homes to any race, regardless of color, constitutes an act of sabotage.

The fight for the Negro's right to occupy homes in the Willow Lodge project looms as the most important item on the agenda of militant Negroes, for upon its outcome depends the future pattern of government housing throughout the country.

If a pattern of segregation is enforced at Willow Lodge, Negroes will find it almost impossible to secure homes near defense plants, not only in Michigan, but in all defense areas. For the same southern congressmen who were instrumental in designating the war project for white only are also working diligently to establish a policy of segregated war housing in other states where Negroes and whites occupy the same projects without incident.

Here is a brief background of the fight:

MAY 22 1943

Since the Ford bomber plant began turning out planes, approximately 10,000 men and women have been employed, but one-half that number has left because of the housing shortage. First attempt to alleviate this shortage was plans for a trailer homes project in the city of Ypsilanti. However, the Ypsilanti city council objected to the establishment of a trailer camp in the city and the construction of 3,000 homes project got under way. When the question of housing Negroes came up, feelers were put out among the workers to ascertain their position on integration.

Efforts Not Interested

However, Allan Straughm, assistant administrator for bomber plant local 50, reported recently that workers have never indicated that they were interested in who occupied the project and that efforts to call them together to discuss the matter have been unsuccessful. However, interest in designating the project for whites was inspired by other than union sources and when Negroes continued to make application for homes, they were told applications should be filed for Ypsilanti Negro project or a project in Inkster.

MAY 22 1943

In the meantime plans were made for the construction of a permanent homes project in the Negro community of Ypsilanti, additional plans called for the establishment of a trailer camp project in the same community. However, the city council voiced no objections to trailer homes in the Negro community. But citizens of Ypsilanti, aroused by Detroiters, joined in the fight; formed a citizens' committee in Ypsilanti; encouraged white people to support their cause, raised funds to support the fight and sent the Rev. H. G. Simmonds to Washington with the delegation.

Since the Willow Lodge fight began the Detroit Housing commission through its secretary, Charles Edgecombe, announced that a project on Eight Mile Road, Negro community, has been designated for Negroes only. Unconfirmed reports are to the effect that Edgecombe has also recommended to federal housing authorities a segregated housing pattern for all war homes in this area.

MAY 22 1943

Would Be Barred

If this recommendation is followed Negroes will be barred from Willow Lodge and whites will be refused homes in Eight Mile Road and Inkster, close to several defense plants.

Efforts are now under way to have Negroes in Eight Mile Road, who accepted the jim crow project, to take a stand against segregated housing on the grounds that a jim crow project in Eight Mile Road will greatly endanger the chances of Negroes occupying Willow Lodge. According to the workers discrimination is riding high. Even when persons attempt to get employment their applications have a space for one's nationality. Negroes are not promoted and they point out that white persons coming from the south who have had less experience are immediately promoted to higher positions. Most of the lead men are from Oklahoma and Texas and are put over Negro gangs in order to create racial discrimination and dissention.

The housing conditions are deplorable. Negroes are relegated to one section of the project. Their quarters are unequipped and they have an electric plate for cooking and heating purposes. None of the projects is without their segregated sections.

An incident was related by a young woman who stated that she was employed on Feb. 13 as a welder student at $1.04 per hour. She was then given a slip to purchase a leather jacket, gloves and welder's hood. She went to work that evening, finished her shift during which she was told by the instructor that she was welding too fast and to take it easy. However, the next day she was told to go to the personnel office and upon arriving there was informed that she did not have the ability to become a welder.

She then went to Don Gibson but was unable to see him. Later she contacted him at his home at which time she says Gibson told her not to create any disturbances and that after all his power was limited and that he had to protect his job. He would talk to the officials to see what could be done. He called her that morning and told her to come out to the yards. She got there at 1:30 and from that time until 4:00 p. m. she

was unable to see anyone. Later she contacted Gibson who arranged for a conference with a Mrs. Kuhne who attempted to pacify her with other jobs which paid less money, in spite of the fact that she had spent over $45 for welding clothes. It was also charged that there is a general policy of the Richmond hiring yards to hire one Negro to every 25 whites.

MAY 22 1943

Mr. Gibson was interviewed and stated that he had been misquoted by the white newspaper and that at all times he had worked to the best interest of the Negro workers. He pointed out the fact his position was that of an arbitrator and that he had been responsible for the employment of a number of Negro women.

C. L. Dellums, civic leader and member of the Bay Cities Anti-Discrimination committee, stated that it was unfortunate that such an incident should occur immediately upon the release of Judge S. Lazarus' report which branded the ship industry here as a hot-bed of rank racial segregation and as the bottleneck in our all-out war effort. Many civic leaders condemned the Gibson statement as a cover up for the labor troubles which exist in the shipyards throughout the bay area. They point out that in spite of the need for electricians and machinists, Negroes are denied these jobs simply because of discrimination.

Willow Run Housing Jim Crow Hit By Detroiters

Chicago, Illinois Chicago Defender

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Housing problems in Detroit, requiring official Washington attention, is making "migrants" of community-conscious Detroiters who again this week came as a delegation to confer with housing officials.

March 6, 1943

This time it is the Willow Run housing development for war workers at Ford's bomber plant. Many of the same delegates who came here on the Sojourner Truth housing problem some months ago were here again.

The group, composed of representatives of the Detroit Urban League, N.A.A.C.P., Citizens Committee, Jewish Council, labor groups and church organizations met Tuesday with National Housing Authority Commissioner John Blandsford and Federal Public Housing Administrator Emmerich.

Fear Dixie Bloc

Walter White, executive secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., was also present.

March 6, 1943

Willow Run, which is now planned for exclusive white occupancy, is denying Negro war workers admission.

The NHA, realizing the inequity of the situation since no other housing in this vicinity will be available for a few months yet, is fearful of changing the "lily white plans" because of the recent attacks made upon it by Rep. Joe Starnes of Alabama, who is trying to spread Alabama racial intolerance into all sections of the country. Starnes has hold of NHA's purse strings as a member of the House Appropriations Committee.

The Detroit delegation is insisting upon mixed occupancy.

Hold Up War Effort

Surpassing in importance the Sojourner Truth housing fight, and breaking into the national spotlight almost on the anniversary of the famous riot of last Feb. 28, the fight for interracial occupancy of Willow Lodge homes, near the Ford bomber plant in Ypsilanti, Mich., is gaining momentum.

The battle began following an announcement by Sherry Reeder of the FPHA that Willow Lodge homes will be closed to Negro war workers, and a similar announcement by the Detroit Housing commission that a project on Eight Mile Road has been designated for Negroes only.

3-6-43

The Detroit committee told federal housing authorities that time spent trying to establish a pattern of segregated housing in Michigan is holding up the war effort, and that to deny Negroes the right to live in Willow Lodge not only violates their constitutional rights but denies them the right to participate fully in the prosecution of the war.

The committee also showed that the Truman committee, investigating labor conditions here last week, reported that the manpower shortage at Willow Run bomber plant is due to an acute housing shortage. The N.A.A.C.P. takes the position that the findings of the Truman committee indicates that the deniel of the homes to any race, regardless of color, constitutes an act of sabotage.

Story Behind Fight

Since the Ford bomber plant began turning out planes, approximately 10,000 men and women have been employed, but one-half that number has left because of the housing shortage. First attempt to alleviate this shortage was plans for a trailer homes project in the city of Ypsilanti.

3-6-43

However, the Ypsilanti city council objected to the establishment of a trailer camp in the city and the construction of 3,000 homes project got underway.

When Negroes made application for homes, they were told applications should be filed for the Ypsilanti Negro project or a project in Inkster.

In the meantime, plans were made for the construction of a permanent homes project in the Negro community of Ypsilanti, and additional plans called for the establishment of a trailer camp in the same community.

But citizens of Ypsilanti, aroused by Detroiters, joined in the fight; formed a citizens' committee in Ypsilanti; encouraged white people to support their cause, raised funds to support the fight and sent the Rev. H. G. Simmonds to Washington with the delegation.

Since the Willow Lodge fight began the Detroit Housing commission through its secretary, Charles Edgecombe, announced that a project on Eight Mile Road, Negro community, has been designated for Negroes only.

If this recommendation is followed Negroes will be barred from Willow Lodge and whites will be refused homes in Eight Mile Road and Inkster, close to several defense plants.

New Masses
New York, N. Y.

THE new and growing bi-partisan backing for the anti-poll tax bill—a backing that includes the one Negro in Congress, William L. Dawson of Chicago, and the one ALP spokesman, Vito Marcantonio—is conceded here to be the first win-the-war legislative action coalition. Experience gained in pushing the repeal of the poll tax can well set the pattern for further counter-offensive against reaction. . . . President Murray of the CIO invited twenty Republican and Democratic congressmen to a dinner where discussion centered on methods of supporting the President and the war effort on the legislative front. Among the valuable suggestions made that evening was one by Representative Marcantonio that the greatest energy should be exerted to obtain working unity on specific issues, rather than placing too much reliance in the beginning on amorphous coalitions lacking definite and immediate programs. . . . Several weeks ago Marcantonio introduced a bill prohibiting discriminatory employment practices. The bill declares that employer discrimination is "obnoxious to the fundamental democratic principle of equal opportunity for all, denies basic civil rights and liberties to large sections of the population, is destructive of workers' morale, impairs national unity, and wastes essential manpower. . . ." Price Administrator Prentiss Brown has issued a statement of policy to all OPA employes charging them to avoid "any act not in accord with the letter and spirit" of the President's executive order 8802 against discrimination. . . . Last week a Detroit delegation arrived in Washington to protest discrimination in the dormitory unit built with federal funds across from Ford's Willow Run bomber plant. The delegation warned that insistence on segregation of Negro from white in this project MAR 23 1943 kept Negro workers out of jobs. Assistant Administrator of Public Housing Herbert Emerich bluntly supported segregation. The appeal will now be taken to John Blandford, head of the Housing Authority, who has previously denounced discrimination. . . . The Ford Co. is said to be "neutral" in the dispute. The Senate Truman committee, investigating production at Willow Run, pointed out that the plant's failure up to now to meet schedules must be blamed on improper transportation and housing shortages which aggravate manpower difficulties. Ford, of course, MAR 23 1943 opposed public housing at the Willow Run plant. The present attempt to Jim Crow Negro workers raises the question: If Negroes cannot live near Willow Run, how can they be employed—and what effect will segregation have on manpower at this vital war center?

MAR 23 1943

Housing Administrator To Hear Detroit Protest

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

DETROIT, Mich.—(SNS)— Church and Civic groups and Taxpayers and Negro Hamtramck Housing Committee, and LeRoy G. Bland-ford, national ad-White, chairman of that body at the Hamtramck protest meeting before Executive Secretary of the Federal Housing Authority, also at the Bland-ford meeting Friday to help put an end to the pattern laid down in Washington in regard to housing.

During the past week church and civic groups were asked to assist in financing the trip for the Hamtramck delegation. The response to this appeal was good. Meanwhile citizens' groups from other parts of the metropolitan area were formed and the conference, Walter E. Hardin, International Representative of the UAW-CIO announced that the CIO would be well represented at the conference in Washington.

Hamtramck housing interests will be represented at the Circuit Court against the Hamtramck Housing Commission. We feel that the Rev. H. M. Metcalf, pastor of the St. Paul AME Zion Church, is an appropriate

64-1943
Star of Zion
Charlotte, N. C.

Michigan

SOUTH DICTATES FEDERAL HOUSING POLICY IN NORTH, NAACP TELLS OFFICIALS

MAR 1 8 1943

Detroit, Mich.—Charging that the Federal Public Housing Authority is permitting the South to dictate its policy in northern areas, the N.A.A.C.P. asked this week that applications of Negroes be accepted without discrimination or segregation to housing projects at Willow Run, Wayne, Inskter, and Ypsilanti.

In response to an earlier communication from the NAACP demanding the admission of Negro tenants into these projects, Commissioner Herbert Emmerlich of the Federal Housing Authority at Washington, D.C., had asserted that occupancy plans are determined by local housing authorities managing the projects and in the absence of such authority, by the Federal Agency, based on occupancy patterns of the vicinity.

MAR 1 8 1943

The NAACP pointed out that there are between 3,000 and 4,000 units at the Willow Run project in which workers employed at the bomber plant will be housed. There are no occupancy patterns in this area because before the establishment of the plant and the housing project it was unoccupied. "It would be assumed" the NAACP said, "that since both Negro and white workers are employed at the bomber plant, housing erected for those workers would follow the pattern of employment."

MAR 1 8 1943

The NAACP asserted that the decision of FPHA is a result of pressure from southern congressmen and other reactionaries. The United Auto Workers, CIO, church and civic groups favored a bi-racial occupancy, the NAACP said, "but the FPHA acted in opposition to their recommendation in order to satisfy the loud chauvinistic rantings of Congressmen Joe Starnes of Alabama and others who would foist on Michigan the jim crow policies of the South." The NAACP pointed out that there are 24 mixed projects in the United States located in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Washington and California.

Detroiters Lose Housing Request

MAR 1 3 1943

Pittsburgh Courier

EDITOR'S NOTE—John R. Williams, editor of the Detroit edition of The Pittsburgh Courier, was one of the delegates who went to Washington last week to confer with FHA officials on the Willow Run situation. The committee was sponsored by Detroit civic organizations, churches, labor unions and the NAACP.

MAR 1 3 1943

By JOHN R. WILLIAMS

DETROIT, Mich., Mar. 11—Detroit's turbulent housing problem became even more complicated last week when the United States Government officially sanctioned segregated housing in a community where such a policy has never been in effect. At a conference last week, FHA officials told 15 Negro and white representatives from Detroit that the new Willow Run Lodge homes, built for workers at Henry Ford's big bomber plant, will be closed to Negro war workers. The ruling imposes a rigid policy of segregation in the public housing system in Detroit, and sets a precedent for other cities throughout the country to pattern after.

MAR 1 3 1943

PLAN COURT FIGHT

The consensus in most reliable quarters here is that the ruling handed down by the FHA is an overwhelming victory for the Southern bloc in Congress which has long been trying to establish segregated housing throughout the country.

MAR 1 3 1943

Following the meeting in Washington with the housing officials, the committee, which was composed of labor, church and civic leaders, immediately launched plans to contest the ruling in court. If the fight takes on the anticipated legal aspect, it is expected to develop into one of the most important cases in the history of Federal housing.

MAR 1 3 1943

At the meeting in Washington last week, the Government representatives listened attentively to white and Negro leaders from Detroit protesting the ban against Negro war workers. Despite the brilliant oratory and earnest appeals, the authorities were unswerving in their determination to bar Negroes from the Willow Run project.

TO BUILD SEPARATE RACE PROJECT

Since the Willow Run fight started, the Detroit Housing Commission through its secretary, Charles Edgecombe, has announced that another project is to be built and has designated it for Negroes only.

The fight for the right to occupy homes in the Willow Run project is another important phase in the heretofore unsuccessful movement to establish segregated housing in the Detroit area. The Willow Run fight is the offspring of the now historic Sojourner Truth fight, of nationwide interest, and stood until now as the greatest victory against segregated housing in Northern communities.

Detroit Families Lose Case Involving Residence Jangle

Pittsburgh Courier
New York N.Y.

DETROIT, Mich—Insisting that the element of race was foreign to the case, Circuit Judge Theodore J. Richter handed down a decision last week restraining the Rev. A. C. Williams, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church, and Frederick T. Stevenson, popular club man, from occupying their recently purchased homes in exclusive Arden Park. Judge Richter also ruled that the defendants were entitled to court costs.

JAN 30 1943

Three white couples of the Arden Park section brought the original action in which they opposed the occupancy of the two Negro families in the area. Attorneys Lloyd A. Loomis and H. B. Taliaferro of the Roxborough and Taliaferro firm, represented the Negro families but were unsuccessful in proving that restrictions had been set up on a racial basis.

JAN 30 1943

Willow Lodge Housing Project In Detroit Bars Negro Tenants

The Pittsburgh Courier
New York N.Y.

DETROIT, Mich.—hitlerism reared its ugly head here a fortnight ago and its brazen jimcro appearance disturbed this defense metropolis to a boiling point not witnessed since race riots seethed around the Sojourner Truth Housing project about a year ago. This time, another housing project has displayed the "No Negro Wanted" sign.

Recently the Detroit offices of the Federal Public Housing Authority, a representative group of interested citizens of both races, were informed that no Negro war workers would be housed in the new 8000 unit Willow Lodge war housing project. It is located near the Ford Motor Company's huge Willow Run plant.

MAR 6 1943

JIMCRO PROJECT BREWING

Applications from Negro war workers will be turned down, according to all available info. It has been indicated that a project may be built somewhere, some time in the future, "for the special use of those war workers who did not have the grace to be born white."

The NAACP asked this week that applications of Negroes be accepted, without discrimination or segregation, to federal housing projects because it is apparent that the South is dictating the policy in northern areas.

In response to an earlier communication from the NAACP, Commissioner Herbert Emmerlich of FHA at Washington asserted that

HOUSING BODY TOLD TO PROBE DETROIT BAN ON NEGROES

Feb 21, 1943
Chicago Bee

DETROIT, Michigan — A report that Negroes are to be segregated into 300 units of the Eight Mile Road Housing Project here and barred entirely from the Willow Lodge Project was relayed this week by the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to its national office for investigation.

The N. A. A. C. P., wired Herbert Emmerich, commissioner of the National Housing Agency, Washington, D. C., to verify the announcement and ask if it met with that office's approval.

"Will you also advise us if the following are correct," the N. A. A. C. P. asked, "that the Ford Motor Company, the United Automobile Workers CIO, and all other parties to the situation favor bi-racial occupancy of dormitories in other housing units; that Mr. Reeder and Col. Stark also favored such arrangements and reported to you that employees' unions and others favored such procedure; that despite these facts you vetoed local plans for non-segregation, non - discriminatory occupancy and ordered segregation at Eight Mile Road Project and barring of all Negroes from the Ypsilanti Project.

"If these facts are correct, we believe a serious mistake has been made. Vacillation of housing authorities and the yielding to pressures by the National Workers League and other groups since indicted by federal government in Sojourner Truth Project led to disorders, photographs of which are now being used by Axis agents among Arabs in North Africa to great embarrassment of General Eisenhower in prosecution of war.

"To avoid similar trouble, we ask you to reverse immediately decision enforcing segregation and discrimination if such decision has been made.'

recommendation of local groups
and was done "in order to satisfy
the loud chauvinistic rantings of
Congressman Joe Starnes of Ala-
bama and others who would foist
on Michigan the jimcro policies of
the South."

MAR 6 1943

are determined by the
occupancy plans are
local housing authorities and in the
absence of such authority by the
Federal Agency, based on occu-
pancy patterns of the vicinity.

At the Willow Run project there
are no occupancy patterns because
before the establishment of the
plant and the housing project it
was unoccupied.

MAR 6 1943

DESIRED EXAMPLES

The United Auto Workers, CIO, church and civic groups favored a bi-racial occupancy patterned after the employment pattern. There are 24 mixed projects in the US located in Connecticut, NY, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Washington and California.

MAR 6 1943

The NAACP has issued a statement pointing out that the present FHA order is in opposition to the

NHA HEAD REFUSES TO CHANGE DETROIT HOUSING ORDER

MAR 14 1943

Bee
Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 11. (ANP)—Herbert Emmerich of the National Housing administration tacitly gave government approval to segregation and jim-crowing of minority groups in houses built with federal funds when he refused to change his attitude toward the Detroit delegation visiting him protesting against the barring of Negroes from the new Willow Run houses to be built in the Ypsilanti mobile center.

Built expressly for defense workers, these houses originally were to serve both races, but recently a change was made and the Willow Run projects specifically designated for white occupants. This had not occurred before in the Detroit area and the civic-minded citizens, remembering the fight over the Sojourner Truth houses, immediately swung into action. Organizing a protest meeting, they made appointments in Washington and descended militantly on the capital on Tuesday. They talked with Emmerich, who refused to retreat from the stand he had previously taken.

Hearings before the house subcommittee are believed responsible for the attitude adopted by the housing administation official. Southern congressmen, controlling the disposition of funds for the housing program, browbeat officials and administrators of the organization injecting racial feeling into the matter at every possible opportunity.

They brought up an old speech made by Dr. Weaver concerning the possibility of Negroes and whites living together in housing projects without trouble. Congressman Joe Starnes of Alabama is the chief offender in these movements and his persistent questioning on racial relations officials has shown that he is unfriendly toward any enlightened program, even if it is other than his own.

In the present situation, the CIO is friendly toward the aims of the Detroit workers and has openly expressed itself as being such. Other organizations are not so outspoken, and several of the congressmen visited with reference to killing off Emmerich's decision were rather lukewarm in their statements.

These include Congressmen Dondero, O'Brien and Sen. Ferguson. None of them seem to remember the political fate of another opponent of this housing group's ambition to obtain its just rights as far as housing is concerned.

The group was composed of some of the outstanding persons in the Detroit area, capably organized and intelligently led.

It is reported that the session was one of the stormiest held in the housing administration office, lasting more than three hours. The members of the delegation, finding that Emmerich was committed to a jim-crow policy, immediately sent letters of protest to the President, demanding a fair decision in the case.

MAR 14 1943

Flay New Jim Crow Housing in Detroit

APR 28 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, April 27.—A ghetto wall, eight feet high and one mile long built of stone by Detroit real estate interests, separates white properties from those of the Negro section. It is in this same section that a less tangible ghetto wall is being erected by the Detroit Housing Commission aided and abetted by members of the Federal Public Housing Authority who have succumbed to the pressure and intimidation of the poll taxers and the Ku Kluxers. A Jim Crow project is to be erected.

The growing resentment and indignation of broad sections of the community were expressed at a public hearing of the Detroit Housing Commission last Thursday, when Dr. James McClendon, president of the Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of the Negro people urged the commission to declare a bi-racial policy for the occupancy of all public housing projects under construction in Detroit. He cited the examples in other large centers where this policy is in effect.

This plea was met by a profuse explanation attempting to justify the present discriminatory policies of the commission. The commission was put on the spot when Robert Lieberman, speaking for the War Policy Committee of the powerful Ford Local 600 of the UAW-CIO declared that his local would shoulder the full responsibility for the administration of the Dix-Powell project if it were open to biracial occupancy. This project nearing completion is adjacent to the Ford River Rouge Plant and has been declared a lily-white project.

APR 28 1943

Lieberman said: "If the Dix-Powell project is declared as Negro or as white, we will take a position against it. If it is designated for mixed occupancy, we will be responsible for its success." Lieberman also blasted the decision declaring the 8-Mile Road-Wyoming project as exclusively Negro.

BAD POLICY

He was joined by Professor Arthur Dunham of the University of Michigan who declared that "the policy of segregation and race discrimination in such projects is not in accord with sound public policy." Adding their voices were Raymond Hatcher, secretary of the Detroit Urban League; William Lovell of the Detroit Post-War Council, and Shelton Tappes, recording secretary of the Ford Local.

APR 28 1943

Tappes told the Daily Worker reporter that his union had declared itself for a policy of no discrimination because of race, creed or color and would maintain its position as the only tenable one.

BOMBER LOCAL PROTESTS

Singled out for attack by Reverend Charles A. Hill at the Negro demonstration at Cadillac Square recently was the chairman of the Detroit Housing Commission, Chas Edgecomb. Reverend Hill condemned him sharply for his subservience to anti-democratic and reactionary forces.

APR 28 1943

The decision by the commission excluding Negroes from the dormitories at Willow Run almost entirely completed and expected to house 3,000 workers, men and women, has been protested by the Bomber Local at Ypsilanti as a contributing factor to the failure of the Ford plant to produce bombers.

APR 28 1943

In addition, although Detroit has never faced as serious a housing crisis as today, 22 modern and up-to-date family dwellings are standing vacant because of the un-American stand of the Hamtramck Housing Commission, which declared the Colonel Hamtramck apartments open to whites only although the project had been built in the heart of the Negro community on land vacated by Negroes. They have been vacant for several months because the court has ruled that 7 per cent of the units be held open until final decision in the case filed by a Hamtramck citizen protesting the ruling. It is expected that another year may pass before a final decision is handed down. Taxpayers will be losing tens of thousands of dollars because of the vicious anti-Negro bias of the commission.

Win-the-war forces are beginning to ask why the individuals indicted by the Federal government in the Sojourner Truth bloody riots have not been tried, although more than a year has elapsed since their indictment. Failure to act on the part of the government has offered encouragement to the Klan which is intensifying its activities.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Fight Looms On Occupancy Of Homes Project

APR 28 1943

NAACP Leaders Take Question To Washington

MAR 13 1943

DETROIT, Mich. — A fight for interracial ~~occupancy~~ of Willow Lodge homes near the Ford Bomber plant in Ypsilanti, Mich., surpassing in importance the now famous Sojourner Truth housing fight of a year ago is in the making.

Impetus was given to the pending battle this week when a delegation headed by the NAACP left to confer with housing officials in Washington and influential white people sought to divide Negroes on the issue of segregation.

Following an announcement by Sherry Reeder of the FPHA that Willow Lodge homes will be closed to Negro war workers, and a similar announcement by the Detroit Housing Commission that a project on Eight Mile Road has been designated for Negroes only, representatives of organized labor, the church and civic groups sought an immediate hearing with John B. Blandsford Jr. for a showdown on the Willow Lodge dispute.

The committee will seek to show federal housing authorities that time spent trying to establish a pattern of segregated housing in Michigan is holding up the war effort, and that to deny Negroes the right to live in Willow Lodge not only violates their constitutional rights but denies them the right to participate fully in the persecution of the war.

The committee will also show that the Truman committee, investigating labor conditions here last week, reported that the manpower shortage at Willow Run bomber plant is due to an acute housing shortage. The NAACP takes the position that the findings of the Truman committee indicates that the denial of the homes to any race, regardless of color, constitutes an act of sabotage.

64-1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Priest Hints at More Housing Riots in Detroit

Flays Mrs. F. D. R. in Protest Against New Project for Colored

By RALPH MATTHEWS

DETROIT, Mich.—Charges that Catholic priests had taken the lead in instigating the notorious Sojourner Truth Housing riot were hurled again this week in connection with the new Muskegon project, where new trouble is brewing.

JUN 26 1943

A secret letter sent to Washington, condemning both the colored race and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt for her liberal views, and signed by the Rev. Father F. J. Flynn, pastor of the Our Lady of Grace Church, fell into the hands of colored leaders this week.

Passed on to FHA

The letter, sent to Representative Albert J. Engle, was turned over to the Federal Housing Authority for action this week.

In this correspondence, the Rev. Father Flynn referred to property, valued at $15,650, which his church has bought near the Ryerson Heights site now being cleared for temporary war workers' homes, and continued:

Raps First Lady

"The whole community on Jackson Hill is indignant about it. It will ruin the value of homes which represent the life savings of hard-working, peace-abiding citizens. They don't deserve to be treated like that even to satisfy the whims of an over-bearing President's wife.

"Could you kindly tell me whom I should contact to find out whether this rumor is true and to get such foolish action stopped if it is true?

Called Undemocratic

"Could you kindly tell me where the Federal authorities get such rights to act against the universal will of the governed?

"We are not against any race or creed, but we do feel that if Almighty God has created the races distinct from each other that it is a sign of His will that they be kept so.

"We desire that the colored people have a good and repectable place to live, but we don't care to have them living in our midst and devaluating the world of our property.

Will Go Any Length

"The people on the hill are willing to go any length, be it petition or whatever it may be go ay length, be it petition or [Editor's Note: Does this mean another riot similar to the one which attended the Sojourner Truth opening?], but they do not wish to see their life investments devaluated by an undemocratic method of procedure.

"If the R.F.H.A. Intends to move Negroes in, also kindly tell me whom I should contact to have it stopped."

Detroit Mayor at Jim Crow Rally

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, Oct. 31.—Lynch spirit ran high at a rally addressed by incumbent Mayor Edward J. Jeffries on Sunday afternoon at Courtville High School in North Detroit. Encouraged by the Mayor's unbridled Negro-baiting, the Virgil Chandler and Buffas and other klan elements are working wide-open distributing scurrilous anti-Negro leaflets and inflaming the people.

"Throw her out — Pour Gasoline on her . . ." were some of the shouts that greeted the words of a woman who stated that "while our boys of all races and creeds are dying for us, we should be ashamed to try to drive the Negro family out."

The rally had been called to take action against a Negro school teacher who had purchased a home right across the street from the school. While a lawyer for the Fenelon Improvement Association presented the legal end of the case indicating that steps were being taken to drive the Negro out, it was an occasion for some of the audience to make inflammatory speeches about "children being beaten up by Negroes" and about taken "action now. Right now."

That the Mayor was aware of the kind of meeting it was best indicated by the flying squads cruising around and the extra police stationed in the vicinity of the school. While the members of the red squad took the name of the woman who rose in defense of Americanism, the names of those threatening violence were not taken.

Michigan

Detroit Suburb's Whites Want All Negroes Barred

Inkster Moves to Secede on Eve of Municipal Election Marked by Racism

PM
New York, N. Y.

By Arnold Beichman
Staff Correspondent

PM Exclusive

DETROIT, Mich., Oct. 30.—On Monday, white residents of a village named Inkster, bordering Detroit, will petition their county board of supervisors for permission to secede legally from the town and incorporate under a new name.

The reason for the maneuver is that Inkster, with a population of about 9000, will shortly receive an additional 500 Negro families into the new George Washington Carver Housing Development, a Federal project.

Until now, the village has lived fairly peacefully, its population being divided 60 per cent white, 40 per cent Negro. The 3800 Negroes live entirely by themselves in the southwest corner of Inkster, accupying about a fifth of the village land area.

OCT 31 1943

White Domination

With the addition of the new Negro families, which would mean about 2000 more Negroes, the political "balance of power," it is feared by some white people, will shift away from its present white domination. Therefore, a group of them are seeking final approval for a plebiscite, now scheduled for Dec. 21, whereby they can withdraw from Inkster and create a new village of their own to be all white.

The petition is being opposed not only by the Negro populace but by a bi-racial committee, which comprises 20 white residents and 20 Negro residents.

It is pointed out that all the community facilities are outside of the segregated Negro area. The City Hall, the playgrounds, the Fire and Police Dept. and the stores lie in the white area. Such a plebiscite would violate the U. S. Constitution.

No Friction

Inkster, during the 16 years of its existence, has worked out a rather successful pattern of community living. The village council has an equal number of representatives from both races, with the president, empowered to break ties, a white business man. Its police department is divided equally between both races. There is a Negro on the Water Board and another on the School Board.

In the memory of the oldest inhabitants, there has never been any real friction. Even during the Detroit race riots last June, no trouble was reported, except for a minor drunken brawl which amounted to nothing. The community moved quickly, however, and organized its bi-racial group to make sure nothing would happen.

Most of the residents in Inkster are Ford Co. employes, and, of course, belong to the United Auto Workers, CIO.

Various stories are told on the origin of this secession movement.

Louis Denby, one of the two Negro councilmen and a Ford electrician, says:

"We've recently gotten a lot of newcomers here from the South and I would say that they have started the agitation. Then, of course, there are always a number of rock-ribbed people who believe in segregation. These people have told me, 'at the rate you Negroes are moving into Inkster, you'll be able soon to put over any kind of government you want.'"

Under the present scheme, the entire white population of Inkster would vote on whether to detach itself from the village. Another ballot would be taken simultaneously of the entire population—white and Negro—on the same proposition. If a majority vote for secession would be cast in each case, the white population would then have the right to attach itself to a continuous township and thus set up a new all-white village.

In such a case Inkster's present indebtedness, a $560,000 bond issue for a village water system, would fall upon the Negro dwellers who would then comprise the entire village population.

That is the picture of a little village which for years was about as untouched by racial animosities as any American community ever was. It lived by Michigan's pre-Civil War tradition when this state was the northernmost terminus of the "underground railway." People got along well.

But now the blight that afflicts Detroit has spread to this village.

JUST THINKING

Daily World

By EUGENE F. CHEEKS

CLEVELAND, O.—(SNS)

SEEKS TO SEPARATE WHITES FROM NEGROES IN DETROIT

Negroes and liberal whites were awaiting with mingled confidence and pessimism, the decision of the county board of supervisors on an appeal by fascist elements of Inkster, a Detroit suburb, to permit secession of the white community from the rest of the town.

DEC 7 1943
Atlanta, Georgia

The appeal, in the form of a petition, was presented to the board, on the eve of a municipal election marked by the wholesale injection of racism. The plan is to have the white section of the suburban town, long known as one of the most democratic in the state, secede from that part inhabited by Negroes.

The reason for the maneuver is that Inkster, with a population of about 9000 will shortly receive an additional 500 Negro families into the new George Washington Carver Housing Development, a Federal project.

Until now, the village has lived fairly peacefully, its population being divided 60 per cent white, 40 per cent Negro. The 3800 Negroes live entirely by themselves in the southwest corner of Inkster, occupying about a fifth of the village land area.

With the addition of the new Negro families, which would mean about 2000 more Negroes, the political "balance of power," it is feared by some white people, will shift away from its present white domination. Therefore, a group of them are seeking final approval for a plebiscite, now scheduled for December 21, whereby they can withdraw from Inkster and create a new village of their own to be [illegible] strength from the white-voting [illegible] all white.

In one way, we [illegible] the elimination of the white population of [illegible] would give the Negro an increase in [illegible] power and aid in the election of a Negro to their Council.

It has been hard to elect Negroes to council in Detroit, because the councilmen are elected at large and are [illegible] in Cleveland [illegible] the remainder of white [illegible] might be advantageous.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

DEC 7 1943

Injunction Halts Inkster Territory Vote

White Residents Are Restored By Court Order

NOV 4 1943

DETROIT—(W N S)— Plans to detach 80 per cent of the territory of Inkster, including all of the white residents, the public buildings and improvements and the largest single taxpayer, from the village, and leave the remaining portion, occupied by Negroes, with the legal obligation of the village debt of more than $750,000 were blocked temporarily today by injunction proceedings in

Circuit Court.

Judge Robert M. Toms granted a temporary injunction restraining the Wayne County Board of Supervisers from certifying the petitions for the proposed detachment, and from setting the date for an election on the question.

The court issued an order to show cause, returnable Nov. 12.

The injunction was asked by Local No. 600, UAW-CIO, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Civil Rights Federation, Inkster's two Negro village councilmen, Louis J. Demby and Osborne E. Jones, and several other taxpayers.

CHURCH MOVEMENT

Edward N. arnard, attorney for the plaintiffs, enounced the proposed detachment of village territory as "the worst fraud and greatest conspiracy calculated to incite race prejudice ever attempted in this country."

The supervisors today received a letter, signed by the Rev. Banjamin J. Bush, D. D., president of the Detroit Council of Churches, which declared that it was opposed to the calling of an election on the Inkster proposal.

"At a recent meeting of 25 Protestant psators of Detroit," the letter said in part, "it was the unanimous judgmen of those present that any proposal to divide a village or any other administrative unitf of Wayne County on racial lines would be ill-advised, undemocratic and conducive to disunity in the community's life."

The letter also was signed by the Rev. T. T. Brumbaugh, D. D., executive secretary, and Dr. Norman F. Kinzie, director of social service for the council.

The Protestant Pastors Union of Greater Detroit announced that at its meeting Friday night it had approved the council's letter, with three dissenting votes.

Barnard said he expects the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor and other social groups to join in the protest against the proposed separation of territory.

The injunction petition charges that the effort to detach most of the present terriory from the village is an attempt to achieve "by indirection and circuity" a previous plan to establish approximately the same territory a a new city, "Westwood," under the state's Home Rule City statues.

That project was ruled illegal in September by the State attorney general.

The present proposal has not been submitted to the attorney general for an opinion as to its legality, the injunction petition stated, but on the advice of the county prosecutor, the ways and means committee of the Board of Supervisors has recommended that the petitions for detachment of most of the territory of the village be approved by the board and an election date set.

DUE BEFORE BOARD

This recommendation was scheduled to come before the supervisors today, Barnard said, and he injunction proceedings were instituted to prevent the anticipated favorable action of the board.

The petitions sent to the supervisors call for the detachment of the territory bounded by the Henry Ruff, Cherry Hill and Gulley roads Michigan avenue, the railroad right-of-way and Inkster road.

A jog in the proposed boundaries, according to the injunction petition, "would leave a large lumber company which is the largest taxpayer in the village, as now organized and constituted, in the territory to be detached."

The detached territory, the injunction petition stated, also would include within its boundaries the public buildings of the present village—fire department, police department, high school playground, all park facilities, public dump, municipal building, municipal garage, village hall, Post Office, water facilities, as well as the main roads and principal shopping center.

The proposed change in boundaries would leave the bonded indebtedness of the village, amounting to more than $750,000, on the Negro residents of the small portion of the present territory which would constitute the village after the detachment of the other territory, Barnard declared in his petition for the injunction.

WATER BONDS CITED

This includes $560,000 in outstanding waterbonds "on which the fullfaith and credit of all the property of the village as now organized and constituted, was pledged;" '110,000 of revenue bonds for sewer construction, which are held by the Federal Government; and $97,000 in revenue bonds for the creation of a water department and the extension of the present water system, which are held by the Women's Benefit Association of Port Huron, it was stated in the injunction proceedings.

The injunction petition denounced the proposal for the detachment of the territory as "an attempt to enable the white population of the village to separate the territory in which they reside from the territory in which the Negro people reside, and in so doing, to deprive the Negro population of the village of all the benefits thereof, all of the essential village improvements, public buildings and conveniences necessary to the maintenance of said village."

The proposed change also was termed "a fraudulent design and scheme to misappropriate valuable village improvements and facilities and to deprive the Village of Inkster thereof," and an effort to "free the territory sought to be detached from the obligation of the bonded indebtedness."

An election on the question, the injunction petition asserts, "would inevitably result in a great discontent and bitter feeling between the white population of Inkster and the Negro population, which would indubitably result in dessension and volence, and would be greatly against the public interest."

The injunction petition points out there are 4,500 white residents and approximately three white residents and approximately 10 Negro families living in the large area which is sought to be detached from the village; and 4,000 Negro residents an approximately three white families in the small area which would remain as the Village of Iinkster.

The validity of the petitions under the law, and the legality of the proposed detachment of territory, under Act 278 of the Public Acts of 1909, which provides for boundary changes, was challenged in the injunction proceedings.

The court was asked to declare the petitions for the detachment of the major portion of the territory of the village as illegal and void.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Injunction Holds Inkster Together

DETROIT. — A temporary injunction issued Friday prevented the immediate secession of the white population of suburban Inkster, who sought last week to heap upon the colored section a municipal debt of over half a million dollars and found a new town of their own.

The writ, which was granted in Circuit Court by Judge Robert M. Toms, was asked by the NAACP, the Civil Rights Federation, a CIO union, Inkster's two colored councilmen, L. J. Demby and O. E. Jones, [redacted] other taxpayers.

The split, if successful, would detach 80 per cent of Inkster's territory, including all public buildings and improvements, and the support of the highest single taxpayer.

Housing Fight

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

LEROY G. WHITE

Public Housing Segregation Issue In Court

DETROIT, Mich. — The federal government's policy of building segregated housing projects for Negro and white citizens, was challenged recently when a suit to establish bi-racial occupancy of a 200-unit federal housing project known as Colonel Hamtramck Homes, located in Hamtramck, Mich., came up in Wayne County Circuit Court for trial. The suit was filed by Leroy G. White, editor of the Detroit World Echo, and local radio commentator.

The case was filed over a year and a half ago and a temporary restraining order was granted restraining the Hamtramck Housing Commission from certifying 7 per cent or 22 units of the project to white people only.

The suit was filed when in June, 1942, the Housing Commission passed a resolution declaring the project "for white only."

The government in answer to the petition by Leroy G. White to restrain them from preventing Negroes from occupying the project, declared that it would cause a chaotic situation throughout the nation if the Negroes should win the right for bi-racial occupancy of the project inasmuch as it would necessitate in many cities, the eviction of white families to make room for Negro families to occupy the various projects.

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE

White, through his attorneys, C. Lebron Simmons and Elvin L. Davenport, charges that the city of Hamtramck and the National Housing Agency is violating the fourteenth amendment to the constitution and the Michigan constitution in limiting the occupancy of the project to white residents only.

The government and the Hamramck Housing Commission have lost since the granting of the temporary restraining order in June, 1942, in rents $800 per month, amounting to $12,000 for the entire period.

This case is believed to be the first case in the country bearing on the question of segregated public housing. The case is being heard before Wayne County Circuit Judge DeWitt H. Merriam who indicated it would be January before he handed down a decision.

Whites Seek To Secede From Detroit Suburb

Afro-American NOV 6 1943
Baltimore, Maryland

DETROIT, Mich.—Negroes and liberal whites here were awaiting with mingled confidence and pessimism, the decision of the county board of supervisors on an appeal by fascist elements of Inkster, a Detroit suburb, to permit secession of the white community from the rest of the town.

The appeal, in the form of a petition, was presented to the board Monday, on the eve of a municipal election marked by the wholesale injection of racism. The plan is to have the white section of the suburban town, long known as one of the most democratic in the state, secede from that part inhabited by Negroes.

The reason for the maneuver is that Inkster, with a population of about 9000, will shortly receive an additional 500 Negro families into the new George Washington Carver Housing Development, a Federal project.

Until now, the village has lived fairly peacefully, its population being divided 60 per cent white, 40 per cent Negro. The 3800 Negroes live entirely by themselves in the southwest corner of Inkster, occupying about a fifth of the village land area.

With the addition of the new Negro families, which would mean about 2000 more Negroes, the political "balance of power," it is feared by some white people, will shift away from its present white domination. Therefore, a group of them are seeking final approval for a plebiscite, now scheduled for December 21, whereby they can withdraw from Inkster and create a new village of their own to be all white.

The petition is being opposed not only by the Negro populace but by a bi-racial committee, which comprises 20 whites residents and 20 Negro residents.

It is pointed out that all the community facilities are outside of the segregated Negro area. The City Hall, the playgrounds, the Fire and Police Departments and the stores lie in the white area. Such a plebiscite would violate the U. S. Constitution.

In its 16-year existence, this is the first time that any type of race feeling has been evident in Inkster. The village council has an equal number of representatives from both races with a white president empowered to break ties.

A Negro member sits on the Water Board and another on the School Board, and its police department is comprised of an equal number of whites and Negroes

Bi-Racial Housing Suit Trial Opens in Detroit

Defender Chicago, Ill.

DETROIT — The Federal Government's policy of building segregated housing projects was threatened NOV 6 1943 when a suit to establish bi-racial occupancy of a 300-unit Federal housing project in Hamtramck, Mich., came up for trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

LEROY G. WHITE

The case is being heard by Judge DeWitt H. Merriam who indicated it would be January before he handed down a decision.

The suit was filed over a year ago by Leroy G. White, editor of the Detroit World Echo, after the Hamtramck Housing Commission, in June, 1942, passed a resolution declaring the project "for white only."

A temporary restraining order was granted which kept the commission from certifying 7 per cent or twenty-two units of the project to whites only.

Government's Reply

In answer to Mr. White's petition, the government declared that it would cause a chaotic situation throughout the nation if colored people should win the right for bi-racial occupancy of the project, in as much as it would necessitate in many cities the eviction of white families to make room for colored families in the various projects.

The editor charges that the city of Hamtramck and the national housing agency are violating the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution and the Michigan constitution in limiting the occupancy of the project to white residents.

The government and the housing commission have lost $800 a month in rents since the granting of the temporary restraining order.

Jeffries Fans New Housing Flare in Detroit

NOV 13 1943
Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

DETROIT.—(ANP)—A new interracial housing dispute, aggravated by pre-election utterances of Mayor Edward F. Jeffries, has prompted a 24-hour police guard around the home of Charles Reynolds, public school teacher here. NOV 19 1943

Prior to his victory in the recent mayoralty campaign, Jeffries told white residents at a mass meeting: "As long as I am mayor the Detroit Housing Commission will do nothing to change the racial characteristics of any neighborhood."

Reynolds, a graduate of Lincoln and Columbia Universities, purchased the building recently and moved in with his wife and 6-year-old son. The same night a committee of neighborhood whites told him that he would have to move. Reynolds refused and announced he would resist all effort to be dislodged. The ringleader was arrested and fined $25 and cost.

White Girl Protests

Jesse Drake, white attorney, said that he had been authorized by the Courtville District Improvement Association to file a complaint against Reynolds and seeking a mandatory injunction on the ground that a clause in the deed prevents lease or occupancy of the buildings in the area by persons of the "African race."

The meeting was almost thrown into a state of pandemonium when a white girl, who said she was an aerial worker, stated:

"Americans of all nationalities are bleeding all over the world. What you're doing here is un-American. You should be ashamed of yourselves." She was howled down amid boos, jeers and cries of "tell her she can go live with them if she wants to."

Clemus Paparelli, white, who works for the Chrysler Motor Company and rents an apartment from Reynolds said: "The Reynoldses are okay as far as I'm concerned. I've got nothing against them. I am satisfied. Reynolds himself seems to be quite a nice fellow."

Police Guard Tenants Threatened By Whites

Courier Pittsburgh Pa.
NOV 13 1943

DETROIT—(ANP)—In the wake of the bitterest political campaign in the city's history that saw the area flooded with racial propaganda of a highly inciting nature, the old bugaboo of mixed housing broke out anew. The "incident" centers around a house occupied by a Negro family just one mile from the scene of the Sojourner Truth housing project riots of February, 1942.

Charley Reynolds, a public school teacher, his wife, an OPA employe, and their six-year-old son face court action instigated by hostile whites seeking their eviction because of an alleged clause in the deed prohibiting anyone of the "African race" from occupying the premises. A 24-hour police cordon has been thrown around the two-story brick structure to protect the Negro occupants. NOV 13 1943

MASS MEETING

A huge mass meeting of irate tenants and property owners was called last week and Jesse Drake, an attorney, told the audience of more than 300 persons that he had been authorized by the Courtville District Improvement association to file complaint against Reynolds and seek a mandatory injunction to prevent his tenancy.

Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, just prior to his victory in the recent mayoralty campaign on a platform of race hate and prejudice, addressed the mob and said that "the most unfortunate thing that has happened has been the injection of race into the campaign." He accused Negroes, who, he said were allies of the CIO "in this campaign who were imported here as strikebreakers for the Ford company during the drive to organize."

ATTITUDE ATTACKED

Jeffries assured his listeners that "as long as I am mayor, the Housing Commission will do nothing to change the racial characteristics of any neighborhood." He was roundly applauded.

During the question and answer period a riot was barely averted when a young white girl who refused to give her name, but said she was a social worker stood up and stated:

"Americans of all nationalities are bleeding all over the world. What you're doing here is un-American. You ought to be ashamed of yourselves."

Teacher Refuses to Quit Home; Defies Detroit Mob

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md
NOV 13 1943

White Family that Shares Dwelling Is Not Planning to Move Either

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DETROIT — Collins Reynolds, 32-year-old school teacher, whose new home at 17007 St. Aubin was subjected to vandalism when he moved in two weeks ago, told the AFRO Sunday: "I intend to fight it out.

"I have the democratic right to live [illegible] place that I buy in any neighborhood [illegible] and I intend to defend my constitutional rights."

Court Action Taken

Court action has been instituted against Reynolds in an effort to force him to move from the block

the African race." He was served a bill of complaint Friday from property owners asserting that he has "no objection" and does not intend to move.

According to Reynolds, his home was built in 1929 at a cost of $16,000 and he paid $8,500 for it. His wife is Mrs. Roberta Reynolds, OPA employee. They have a 6-year-old son.

A graduate of Lincoln University, Reynolds teaches at the Garfield Intermediate School. He received his M.A. degree from Columbia University and is working on his doctorate at the same institution.

NAACP Intercedes

The Detroit branch of the NAACP is intercedes in Reynolds's behalf, according to Gloster B. Current, executive secretary.

The flight that the Reynolds family moved into their new home through two bricks were thrown through a front window. A mob of 100 whites assembled and threatened to keep the moving van from un-

64-1943

HOTEL OBJECTS, WOMEN VOTERS MOVE MEETING

Pittsburgh Courier

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 5—The St. Louis League of Women Voters, one of the most influential groups in the city, Friday, July 30, refused to agree on the Jim Crowism of the Kings-Way hotel and moved its headquarters to an apartment at 4740-A McPherson avenue because the management of the hotel objected to Negro members of the league attending meetings there.

As there is a Negro on the board of the league and approximately one-ninth of the members are Negroes, the league could not function properly if it allowed the hotel to discriminate against its members.

The trouble started last March 16, when the league had a meeting scheduled to discuss the "Four Freedoms." The management informed Mrs. Ralph W. Thayer, acting president that Negro delegates would not be allowed at attend. After a heated objection on the part of the league members, Morris Steinbaum waived his ruling. However, the league, dissatisfied with the attitude of Steinbaum decided to move headquarters as soon as a suitable place could be found.

AUG 14 1943

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

SUES OVER HOMES ON ENRIGHT

JUL 23 1943

Seek Ban In 4500 And 4600 Blocks

The hearing of evidence before Judge James E. McLaughlin of the Equity Division, of the Circuit Court, in an injunction suit against Lorenzo Blanton, Lawrence and Lilly Holland, and Cleota Spotts ended last week and the court granted plaintiff's attorney ten days in which to file a brief and the defendant's attorney ten days additional time in which to file a reply brief after which the case will be argued.

JUL 23 1943

Base On Old Covenant

The injunction suit is based upon a restriction agreement on property in the 4500 and the 4600 block, Enright avenue, limiting the ownership and use of said property to members of the Caucasian race and barring the selling, leasing, or renting of this property to Negroes, and it seeks to cancel their deed and evict them from their respective premises.

Others Move In

There are several other Negro families who have bought and moved in these blocks since this suit was instituted and the retention of their property largely depends upon the outcoie of the case. It has been held by Missouri Courts that restriction agreements limiting the use of property in the restrictive district to members of the caucasian race is not contrary to public policy and do not violate any rights of the Negro under the constitution of the United States. But, the facts and circumstances of such restrictive agreement as well as the instrument itself must meet all legal requirements to be valid in its application. The attorneys for the defendants, property owners, will argue that the instrument itself is defective and that the changing of the character of the neighborhood by permitting Negroes to buy and reside in those blocks as well as the willingness of the owners to sell to Negroes have made it impossible to maintain a white neighborhood. The Trustees of the Property Owners are prosecuting this suit, are represented by Malcom Frank, and the defendants are represented by S. E. Garner, Harvey V. Tucker, and H. W. Hollie, attorneys.

JUL 23 1943

Missouri

Color Line Costs St. Louis Big Auto Union Convention

Defender

Chicago, Ill.

AUG 14 1943

By HOWARD WOODS

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Discrimination practices of St. Louis cost this city its second large convention in two weeks, it was disclosed this week.

The CIO United Automobile Workers, which was to have held its international confab here September 29, will meet instead in Buffalo because leading hotels and cafes here practiced discrimination against Negroes.

This announcement was made in Detroit by R. J. Thomas, union president, who followed action of the CIO executive board two weeks ago in moving the CIO national convention from St. Louis to Philadelphia because leading hotels would not rent rooms to Negro delegates.

Thomas said the convention would be the largest in UAW history with 2100 delegates. Last year's convention in Chicago was attended by 1700 delegates.

"We regret that a large city such as St. Louis cannot provide facilities wherein American citizens regardless of race can meet in convention," Thomas said. "The UAW-CIO makes no compromise with racial intolerance. When we found that the hotels and cafes in St. Louis created a color line which would bar some of our delegates, we decided to move."

Another official stated that when the racial issue was raised in St. Louis, the organization immediately started looking for another city. It was learned that satisfactory commitments, free from all discrimination, have been completed in Buffalo.

It has been the practice of large conventions to provide separate housing facilities for Negro delegates up until this time.

When the racial issue was raised in St. Louis, George F. Addes, secretary-treasurer, UAW, stated that he immediately began looking for another city where the principles of union would not be invalidated.

"Satisfactory commitments, free from all discrimination, have been completed in Buffalo," he announced.

AUG 14 1943

F. H. Rohn, secretary-general manager, St. Louis convention, publicity and tourist bureau, said he was not informed of the situation until after the union had acted.

"We had fully counted on having the convention here from September 29 to October 5 or 6," he reported. "The UAW sent a committee here to make arrangements, and I understand they had decided Negro delegates would stay at Negro hotels, and would take their noon meals with other delegates in the auditorium.

"The practice in St. Louis has been that Negro delegates attend session in public rooms at convention hotels, and to stay at Negro hotels."

St. Louis Loses Two CIO Meets

AUG 14 1943

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 14—Within the short space of two weeks, St. Louis hotel race prejudice has caused the city to lose two conventions. The United Automobile Workers of the CIO last week announced that their international convention, scheduled to meet here September 29, will be held instead at Buffalo, October 4, because St. Louis hotels refused to rent rooms to race delegates.

The announcement was made in Detroit by R. J. Thomas, union president. Thomas said the convention would be the largest in the history of the organization, with 2100 delegates. Last year's convention at Chicago was attended by 1700 delegates.

AUG 14 1943

Two weeks ago, the CIO executive board moved its national convention to Philadelphia for the same reason.

64-1943

NEVADA

Nevada Magnesium Plant Accused Of Segregation

NOV 6 - 1943

Defender
Chicago, Ill. NOV

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Basic Magnesium, Inc., one of the nation's largest magnesium producing plants, has inaugurated a policy of segregation in its facilities for housing Negro and white workers, it was charged by Wayne J. Bell, here this week.

Bell, in a statement to the Defender, accused company managers of partitioning its houses and setting aside separate wards for use by the two races. A sit-down strike, staged on October 20, he declared, met with no success, the more than 300 participants being ordered off the premises by members of the plant protection unit.

Badges were taken away from the protestants and they were relieved of their passes. The entire group was told to report to the personnel office for papers terminating their service.

A committee, composed of Bell, the Rev. L. J. Davis and James C. Johnson, waited on the general manager of the plant in an effort to correct the evil, according to Bell. Nothing availed from the meeting.

Later, representatives of the workers wired protests to President Roosevelt, the War Manpower Commission, WLB, FEPC, WPB, and the NAACP. As a result of the complaints, Bell stated, representatives were brought into an investigation by WMC, FEPC, and USES.

These government men called company representatives into conference in the local USES office on October 21, for talks which are still in progress.

Gov't Workers Segregated at Relief Meeting

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
NOV 20 1943

Housed in Jim-Crow Hotels; Not Invited to Official Reception

NOV 20 1943

WHITES GIVEN $10 A DAY; COLORED $6

Secretaries Forced to Use Freight Elevator at Shore Hotel

By JOSEPH CLAIBORNE

ATLANTIC CITY — Colored members of the U.S. State Department secretariat, handling the records of the sessions of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, found themselves not only jim crowed as far as housing and eating accommodations are concerned but were also not invited to attend the official reception held at the Claridge Hotel Saturday night.

The reception was held from 10 p.m. to 2 p.m. Clerks, secretaries and messengers who normally worked a 4 p.m. to midnight shift were ordered to change their hours from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. for that night, while those who normally worked from midnight to 8 a.m. were ordered not to report for work until 2 a.m.

This shifting of hours meant that none of these employees would be in the hotel during the hours that the reception was in progress.

Use Servants' Entrance

These government workers are also restricted to using the servants' entrance and the freight elevator at the UNRRA headquarters in the Claridge, reportedly because white maids and waiters protested.

White government workers assigned to the sessions are living in boardwalk hotels. Colored workers are housed in the Liberty Hotel, located in an all-colored district, six [illegible] from conference headquarters.

NOV 20 1943

$6 a Day for Expenses

According to reliable reports, the whites are paid $10 per day to cover expenses, while colored employees receive but $6.

The press relations office at UNRRA headquarters denied that discrimination had been practiced in housing the workers, adding that the colored workers had been housed at the Liberty of their own accord.

An investigation, however, disclosed that a State Department representative had been in touch with the Lincoln, Ridgley and Liberty Hotels, all in a colored section of the city, as well as with the Green Parrott, Ridgley and Snowden restaurants, to see what accommodations could be supplied.

Fr. Divine Wins A. C. Hotel Case

NOV 20 1943

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—Father Divine's disciples won the first step in their fight to stop jim crow in the Brigantine municipality Wednesday night when the New Jersey Tax Board reduced the assessment on the Divine "heaven," Hotel Brigantine, from the boosted figure of $[illegible] to $64,000.

NOV 20 1943

Mrs. Sara S. Washington, one of the co-owners, filed a petition recently, asking for a reduction of the assessment to a more reasonable sum. She declared the action directed against the Brigantine Hotel as an attempt to jim crow colored people from the municipality.

In reducing the assessment to $64,000, the board failed to act on the demand of 86 disciples of Father Divine that the assessments of all other improved property on the island be increased to their true value.

NOV 20 1943

Appeals Planned

On hearing the decision, Louis M. Mallin, counsel for the Divine ownership group, promptly said he would appeal both cases to the New Jersey Board of Tax Appeals.

The lengthy litigation, the end of which is not yet in sight, began shortly after the Father Divine group bought the hotel in March, 1942 for $70,000. The assessment then was $26,000.

Mrs. Wright Would Like to Ship Out--One of Her 3 Stars Is Gold

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Beth McHenry

Mrs. Alice Wright fingered her three-star pin that means three of her menfolk are in the merchant marine and said, it isn't easy, losing your boy. It's a terrible thing, she said, but war is on us and war is a deadly business and we've got to carry on. But I hate to look at his clothes, she said, they're hanging there at home and I can't look at them.

Mrs. Wright has lost one boy in the war already, a seaman son, thirty years of age and close to her heart. She's thirty pounds thinner since she heard of the death. Daytimes she's busy, but the nights are long and she can't help but worry about her other boy, Walter, who is out at sea now.

The third star in her pin is for her husband, George Wright, who shipped out to join the boys in carrying the stuff to our armies on the other side.

Mrs. Wright keeps busy at the National Maritime Union Auxiliary where we interviewed her yesterday. She has become extremely active since Arthur's death. It's the saving of me, she said, working with other women whose troubles are like mine and keeping up with things.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wright is on the hospital committee and once a week she goes with a group of other women to Staten Island to bring sugar and cakes and cigarets to the merchant marine boys who are there. It does you good, she said, doing little things for the sons of other women and somehow it makes you feel closer to your own.

Mr. Wright said she just wishes she could go to sea herself. Her father was a ship's captain sailing out of Antigua on an old sailing vessel and she made trips with him as a child, fierce trips through heavy storms. But she loves the sea and she thinks the boys inherited her feeling for it. You couldn't keep them from shipping out, even before we were at war, she said.

Mrs. Wright had her boys when she was very young and she and they sort of grew up together, sharing dancing and sports and books together and always turning a laugh on one another, so that their home was a happy one.

The boys dreamed of good things for her and Arthur was determined one day to buy her a farm with chickens, near a lake. And when he made out his insurance to her he said, if we're unfortunate and you get the this money, mother, you're to buy that farm we talked about and live healthy. I'll rest earlier if you do that, he said.

JIM CROW

So when the insurance check came, Mrs. Wright said she felt as if she must do the thing her boy wanted her to do and recently she's been going down to New Jersey, looking at farms. But in Vineland and in Mattawan she's had the kind of experiences that rest heavy on her heart. She was turned down as a purchaser because she is Negro. Oh I tell you, she said to us, there's some of this war that's got to be won here at home. My son gave his life for his country, she said, and they won't let his mother have a farm in New Jersey. What do you think of that, she said. What do you suppose my boy would say about it now, my boy Arthur that's dead from Hitler's torpedo, she said.

MRS. ALICE WRIGHT

SEP 15 1943

64-1943

Metropolitan True To Form

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

MAY 29 1943

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company which got its start selling insurance to poor Negroes in the South and has a billion dollars worth of insurance on Negroes' lives today is about to finance a lily-white housing project with their money in New York City.

It is seeking special tax exemptions and grants of city-owned land to erect a $50,000,000 housing project on New York's lower east side and the chairman of its board of directors, Frederick H. Ecker, stated frankly that colored citizens would be excluded.

"Negroes and whites don't mix," explained Ecker, ignoring the fact that 80 per cent of American Negroes are possessed of Caucasian ancestry. "Perhaps they will in a hundred years, but they don't now. If we brought them into this development, it would be to the detriment of the city, too, because it would depress all the surrounding property."

It is positively amazing how a supposedly educated business executive could tell so many falsehoods in so few words.

The police of New York City have just closed the famous Savoy Ballroom on a "framed" charge, the real reason being that the colored and white patrons did the very thing Mr. Ecker says they do not do.

But no colored person should be surprised at the statement of Mr. Ecker nor the lily-white policy of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

In the Borough of The Bronx in New York City, the Metropolitan recently completed the largest single housing project in the world, called Parkchester.

No person of known Negro ancestry is permitted to rent an apartment in this huge city within a city, although colored servants are permitted to work for families there, cooking their food, minding their children and attending to their personal wants.

The New York City Planning Commission has approved the new Metropolitan medium-rental housing project, despite Mr. Ecker's announcement that Negroes will be barred, and despite New York laws outlawing discrimination.

There is no difference whatever between the racial attitude of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and that of the National Socialist Party of Germany.

Both believe in an inferior and a superior "race," and both believe in penalizing the "race" which it regards as inferior until it becomes in fact inferior through all forms of proscription and discrimination.

The Metropolitan has always been a lily-white outfit which has insulted, humiliated and discriminated against Negroes for generations, and there is not an intelligent colored American who does not know it.

We should not compromise with evil, we should fight it tooth and nail.

We have no right to complain about the Metropolitan's lily-whiteism so long as we tacitly approve of it by continuing to give it our money.

New York

There is no excuse for giving a lily-white outfit our money when there are half a hundred insurance companies owned and operated by our own people which give the same protection as the Metropolitan, are just as safe, and give jobs to our sons and daughters.

These Negroes who have backbone instead of a wishbone, will know how to answer Mr. Ecker and his Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

N. Y. Councilmen Blast Tax-Exempt Housing Project

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

MAY 29 1943

NEW YORK CITY, May 27—Frank Crosswaith, international organizer of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union and member of the New York City Housing Authority, in an exclusive statement to this paper, attacked Frederick H. Ecker, chairman of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company.

A militant fighter, Crosswaith's statement spearheads the fight of Negro leaders throughout the city to keep the insurance company from building a segregated housing project in the Stuyvesant Park area on the lower East Side of New York.

Under the amended Hampton Urban redevelopment law, the insurance company is getting tax exemptions on property improvements for 25 years. The site has been approved by the NYC board of estimate.

Mr. Crosswaith, who was appointed to the Housing Authority in 1942 said that Mr. Ecker's proposal to the city to build this $50,000,000 housing project on land owned by the city and tax exempt, is "not only a challenge to every Negro in America, but also to the liberal labor and progressive forces of the nation. Mr. Ecker's proposal comes at a time," said the Housing Authority member, "when Negroes, like all the other elements in the republic, are being asked to give their all in the struggle between the forces of totalitarian darkness, racial bigotry and political retrogression on the one hand, and democracy, progressive freedom and justice on the other."

STATEMENT NAZI-LIKE

Mr. Ecker, in a recent statement to the members of the City Board of Estimates, said "That whites and Negroes just don't mix and that in another 100 years, they might do so," Crosswaith termed this statement as the "voice of Nazism and Fascism trying to sell again to the American people, some of the old economic and sociological ties which were long ago exposed. When Mr. Ecker states that if Negroes were brought into the new project it would be to the detriment of the city because it would depress all the surrounding property values, he has succeeded definitely in posing as the unchallenged successor to Annanias," the union official stated.

This is the second attempt in four weeks on the part of New York City to establish racial boundaries and to prohibit mixtures. The recent Savoy closing was supposedly based upon racial mixtures, prostitution and high venereal disease rates. Now the Board of Estimates permits a private firm to use city funds to establish a white racially pure housing project.

HAS 2,000,000 POLICY HOLDERS

One of the more dramatic features of Mr. Eckers' proposal, Mr. Crosswaith said is that the Negroes constitute an impressive segment of the large army of Metropolitan Insurance policy holders, and that much of the money being used to erect these housing projects is money spent with the company by Negroes." The insurance company has written 2,000,000 policies covering Negroes. These policies are estimated to be valued at $800,000,000.

"Although, the proposed project is to house 24,000, which would be larger than a town the size of Danbury, Conn., no plans are known to be made for a school. It is felt that this is another move to bar Negroes," a spokesman of the Peoples' committee stated.

GETS AMENDMENT

Councilmen Stanley Isaacs and A. Clayton Powell Jr., introduced an amendment to New York's administrative code which would outlaw racial and religious discrimination in private housing projects developed through city aid.

Isaacs said in introducing the amendment to the City Council on May 21st, "I believe that the decision of tenant selection on the basis of race, color or creed, should not be left to the operating company, but should be made by the city itself as a condition of the grant of the right of condemnation and tax exemptions. No such property rights and privileges should be granted to any corporation which in turn does not accept certain public responsibilities."

The amendment would withhold tax exemption or tax limitations from any housing or redevelopment company which practices such discrimination.

NAACP FIGHTS

Officials of the NAACP in a published statement, joined Crosswaith, Isaacs and Powell in attacking the proposed housing project of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company. Said NAACP officials, "If the city of New York should enter into a contract with the insurance company whereby the company would be allowed to discriminate against Negroes, in the selection of tenants for this project, such a contract would contravene the civil rights law of the State of New York. It would also contravene the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Council Hits 'Met' Jim Crow Policy

JUN 16 1943

The City Council yesterday asked the Board of Estimate to prohibit the exclusion of tenants from city-aided housing projects for reasons of race, creed or color.

The resolution was aimed at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.'s East Side project, Stuyvesant Town, which excludes Negroes, though the project was not specifically named.

The resolution passed by a vote of 21 to 4. Only one Councilman, Phillips, Democrat from Queens, voted against it, but there were three abstentions.

The sweeping majority for the resolution reflects the vigorous mass protest that followed the announcement that Negroes would be excluded from a project that was getting millions of dollars in tax exemptions from the city.

The resolution that finally went through was sponsored by Councilman Joseph Sharkey, Democratic majority leader, as a substitute for a resolution jointly offered by Councilmen A. Clayton Powell and Stanley M. Isaacs, Independents.

The Powell-Isaacs resolution specifically condemned the Metropolitan's policy of discrimination.

"Discrimination against Negroes, Jews or other American groups is Hitler's program," said Powell, taking the floor for his motion.

He added that a project that excludes Americans because of race, creed or color cannot be considered a "public" project, and must not be permitted to receive tax favors.

Powell and Isaacs promptly accepted Sharkey's substitute. It seemed for a time, however, that the measure was in danger. Councilman Hugh Quinn, Queens Democrat, tried to block immediate consideration. His objection was ruled "untimely" by Newbold Morris, who was presiding over the Council. But Quinn was sustained by a vote of 15-11, and the resolution was sent to th[illegible]tee. Before the session was over, however, the committee reported it back to the floor, where it was passed.

The Council's resolution against the policy of discrimination has only the power of a recommendation. But it will greatly weaken the Jim Crow policy supporters.

The campaign to prevent the policy of segregation in city-aided housing projects is greatly strengthened.

PM
New York, N. Y.

JUL 7 1943

Race Harmony

Dear Editor:

I should like to commend the policy of PM in insisting that Mayor La Guardia follow up his appeal for racial harmony with a program of action. It is my personal observation that his position is, to say the least, inconsistent.

One of the factors in the Detroit situation that was humiliating and caused Negro morale to decline was the Sojourner Truth Housing Project episode in which public officials failed to take an adamant stand in regard to discrimination. The Mayor's support of the Stuyvesant Housing Project on the lower East Side which [illegible] to continue the policies of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., its sponsor, in barring Negroes, has weakened the Mayor's position in seeking the full support of the citizens in this very difficult period.

New York FRANK C. MONTERO

Has No Place In Post-War Planning

Atlanta Ga. Daily World

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York City is planning to build a large housing project, Stuyvestant Town from which Negroes are to be excluded. It is reported that the company is prepared to invest $15,000,000 in the project. The New York Board of Estimate, voting 11 to 5 on the measure, said go ahead. But, due to the mass pressure from local citizens, reversed itself and passed Local Law, known as 315, ruling out discrimination by reason of race, color or creed in the project.

In effect, Mayor LaGuardia, who, at first endorsed the project, went on record as approving racial discrimination. Fortunately, in the meantime, a technical hitch developed. The City Charter requires that actions involving the grant of rights to private corporations for the use of city-street properties, a three-fourth majority vote is necessary for validation. And in this manner, civic minded liberals got to work. It seems now that the measure is doomed. That is as should be.

Though confined to New York, the matter is of national-even of international concern, because the project will be built after the war, and must therefore be viewed as part of our plans for the post war world. And such a thing not orly sets a dangerous precedent and squanders a lot of money on a middle class group, but it fails to take into consideration the lower income groups, who are in greater need for housing facilities. Let us hope that the application be denied. For such racial discrimination has no place in post-war planning.

JUN 28 1943

Forum Hears Begun Flay Parkchester Jim Crow

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Isidore Begun, Communist candiate to the City Council, carried his fight against the Metropolitan Insurance Co.'s color barrier in its Parkchester housing project into the project itself at a forum for councilmanic candidates.

Noting that no Negroes were present in the gathering of 700 people because Negroes are not permitted to live in the project Begun called on the audience to act to end this shameful Jim Crow system.

The candidate pointed out that what the Metropolitan Insurance Co. is attempting to do in its proposed Stuyvesant project it has already accomplished in Parkchester where it rents its 12,000 apartments to whites only.

Begun is also sharply raising the issue of anti-Semitism at open-air meetings in various parts of the Bronx.

The candidate emphasized the disgrace that Louis Cohen, reactionary Bronx Democrat in the Council, cast on the people of his borough recently when he voted against Councilman Peter V. Cacchione's measure to outlaw anti-Semitism in this city.

Begun has been invited next Tuesday at 4 P. M. to a tea the Women's City Club is giving at the New Weston Hotel, Madison Ave. and 50th St. for councilmanic candidates.

Denies Refusing Room to Negro

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Martin A. Nichols, assistant manager of the Hotel Knickerbocker, 120 W. 45th St., on trial in Special Sessions charged with violation of the Civil Rights law, today denied he had refused a room to William Bowman, 28 a Negro, of Saginaw, Mich.

"I told him," Mr. Nichols said, "that [illegible] many Southern guests [illegible] I asked him: 'Don't you think you might find it embarrassing to be here?'"

Mr. Bowman is an organizer for the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

SEP 22 1943

Attacked During Blackout

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

New Negro Residents Are Stoned By White Neighbors

NEW YORK, Sept. 30—Seventeen days after Mrs. Evelyn K. Rannie and her husband, Clarence, moved into a house they bought at 114-12 169th street, St. Albans, Queens, she was struck in the chest with a rock hurled through a bedroom window during a blackout. Two other rocks smashed through their front door, and the rock, striking Mrs. Rannie, aroused her from a sound sleep.

OPERATES BEAUTY PARLOR

Judging from the insults received from some neighbors after the Rannies moved into the house, the rocks were thrown by whites wro objected to the couple moving into the white neighborhood.

Mrs. Rannie, who, with her husband, operates a beauty parlor in Harlem, said trouble started "the day we moved in."

"An elderly neighbor stood outside and spat on our hedge and called my husband a 'black n—r.' I took this house because it was near a bus line, as my husband goes to work up in Harlem every day. I didn't know anything like this would happen."

WORKED HARD

The day before the stoning took place, Mrs. Rannie said 15 or more people from the block "stood out in front of our house and yelled 'black n—r' and worse at me until my next door neighbor told them they ought to be ashamed of themselves. I have worked hard, like a lot of other poor people, to get a house like I've always wanted, and if it is possible I am going to see this business through."

CALLED "NICE PEOPLE"

The next-door neighbor is Mrs. Alice Lenehan, white, and has lived in her house for 14 years. Asked her opinion of the Rannies, she said:

"The Rannies seem to be very nice people. I think the people in the neighborhood are taking the wrong attitude at a time when we are fighting a war against actions of this kind."

Three other neighbors, who refused to give their names, said they thuught the Rannies had no business moving into the house, but denied taking part in any of the persecution.

their Jim Crow policy for Stuyvesant Town.

It seems to me after the outbreaks in Harlem the necessity for abandoning this shameful policy is more than ever imperative.

What special kind of blinkers do these people have that they cannot see so [illegible] so very obvious?

JOHN SCANLON.

AUG 23 [illegible]

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y. Age

A Particular Kind of Blindness

New York, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

I see by the Daily Worker that a suit has been filed to restrain Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and the city from going ahead with

AUG 23 1943

ALP Club Fights Attacks on Negro Apartment House

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

The 23rd A. D. ALP South Club anncunced yesterday that it had set up a committee personally to investigate attacks on the apartment house at 463 W. 166th St., recently occupied by Negro families, and to offer any legal aid the superintendent of the building or the tenants required.

The club's offer followed a story in Wednesday's **Daily Worker** about further attacks on the house and reports that, Wednesday evening, white youths had tossed lighted sticks and paper into the hallway threatening to set the house afire. The club also sent a letter to Mrs Anne Caldwell, superintendent of the building, expressing sympathy and support.

The **Daily Worker** story resulted also in bringing a police sergeant of the [illegible] precinct to the house yesterday. After [illegible] Mrs. Caldwell's story that policemen assigned to guard the premises had frequently not shown up, the sergeant promised to assign a plain-clothes-man to watch 24 hours a day for the culprits.

NOV 8 1943

Pratt Sues Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.

Asks Writ to Halt Lily-White Housing Project in New York

CASE PREPARED BY HENRY EPSTEIN

Says City Can't Tolerate Prejudice

NEW YORK — Eliot Pratt, grandson of the late Charles Pratt, founder of the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, announced that he would file suit Monday in Supreme Court to restrain the city and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company from carrying out their plans for a housing development on Manhattan's East Side, to be called Stuyvesant Town.

He said he objected to the project because of the social aspects, which include discrimination of colored people who will not be admitted to Stuyvesant Town.

Second Suit

Mr. Pratt's action will be the second directed against the project. Property owners in the proposed site for the development, an eighteen-block area bounded by Fourteenth and Twentieth Streets and Avenues A and C, filed a suit last week with the Court of Appeals after the Appellate Division had refused to restrain the city and Metropolitan Life.

Mr. Pratt's suit is supported by a number of civic, welfare and labor organizations which have criticized the project repeatedly. These include the Citizens' Housing Council of New York, the Citizens' Union, the City-Wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem, the Committee Against Race Discrimination in the War Effort, the New York Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union, and the State Division of Housing.

Pratt will challenge the constitutionality of the granting of tax exemption in a private contract and will charge by the city on discrimination in the use of city funds and property.

Mr. Pratt is a member of the American Civil Liberties Union.

AUG 4 1943

Epstein, Lawyer

The action was prepared by a group of lawyers including Henry Epstein, former Solicitor General of New York State, and Edward Weinfeld, former commissioner of the City's Housing.

In his suit, Mr. Pratt will challenge the constitutionality of the Congress of Industrial Organizations. While the case is before the Court of Appeals questions the city's right to use its condemnation powers for private purposes, the new action will challenge the granting of tax exemption in a contract signed by the City of New York and a twenty-five-year tax exemption. Mr. Pratt's Life Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, giving Metropolitan eminent domain.

64-1943 · New York

Mortgage Company Chagrined to Find That Even a Negro's Home Is His Castle

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

By Eugene Gordon

The Union Mortgage Co. and its high-powered counsel have just been reminded that even a Negro's home is his castle.

Vicious old Jim Crow, incidentally, has received a punch that still has him groggy.

Here is the story:

Mrs. Beulah W. Green, about March 1, inquired about a vacancy in the apartment house at 248 W. 17th St. She told Charles E. Burns, superintendent, that she wanted to be nearer her work, less than a block away, in the offices of the National Maritime Union. Her husband, a seaman, was at that moment aboard a freighter carrying supplies to the anti-fascist war front. APR 16 1943

The elderly Mr. and Miss Burns—brother and sister—liked the pretty young bookkeeper. Of course she could have the apartment. It was nicely furnished. It was No. 104, just off the broad Spanish lobby. They showed it to her. She paid a $10 deposit and got a receipt signed "Union Mortgage Co., by Charles E. Burns." APR 16 1943

Both Mr. Burns and the Union Mortgage Co. phoned Mrs. Green, during the following week, to come to the office at 29 Broadway, sign the lease and pay the $30 balance of the first month's rent.

Saturday afternoon, April 3, Mrs. Green paid the superintendent the balance of $30 and executed the lease submitted for her signature. Miss Burns looked on. The new tenant received her key and was told she could move in at any time. She moved that very afternoon.

Her receipt read: "Receipt of $30 for rent of 104—248 West 17th St. for balance of the month." It was signed by Burns. APR 16 1943

She went out to dinner around 7 P. M., returning about 10. She was puzzled when the key, which had earlier opened her door, wouldn't fit the lock. She was shocked when, a few minutes later, the superintendent told her the lock had been changed. Why? The landlord—Union Mortgage Co.—had ordered it. APR 16 1943

Burns himself seemed to have some misgivings. He asked Mrs. Green whether it was true she was a Negro. Of course she was, she said. Well, that's what somebody had told him. The house was for white people only. She reminded him that both he and his sister had received her cordially.

"Oh, but we didn't know you were colored, then," Miss Burns said.

Mrs. Green, in addition to being pretty, is a graduate in music, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., and of the commercial department of the Tennessee State College.

Locked out of her apartment by the superintendent, Mrs. Green phoned the police. They came but couldn't 'act, they said because it was a civil case. She saw Joseph R. Brodsky, fighting labor attorney, of 100 Fifth Ave. He advised her that, it being her apartment, she had a right to break into it.

MRS. BEULAH GREEN

FIRM GETS A LESSON

APR 16 1943

She is a slightly built person so she couldn't smash the heavy door. But a couple of able seamen from the NMU office could. They did. This time the superintendent phoned the police. It was still a civil case.

She has lived there ever since. APR 16 1943

The Union Mortgage Co.? Naturally they and their counsel threatened and fumed. But they didn't know Brodsky. They know him now, however. They still fume but they don't threaten any more. It would probably be a mistake to believe they haven't some trick up their sleeve. Brodsky is watching to see that, if so, it stays there.

Mrs. Green, meanwhile, goes about her work in the NMU office. She has the assurance not only of the members of the NMU and of her own office workers' union. Some 10 or more dwellers in the house have told her that they'll stand by her.

This little epic can be properly ended only with a quote from a letter Mr. Brodsky wrote to the Union Mortgage Co.:

"It seems to me that this is particularly the time when national unity of all of our peoples, regardless of race, color, creed or national origin, is necessary to insure victory over our Nazi-Fascist enemies, who are seeking to divide the world precisely on the basis of vicious and erroneous racial superiority theories." APR 16 1943

And the following:

"Certainly discrimination against Mrs. Green, because of her color, is a blow at our own national unity and a disservice to our country's cause. Let me therefore state, as firmly as I can, **that under no circumstances will client acquiesce in any unlawful actions on your part seeking her ouster; on the contrary, she is determined to take every proper and legal step to protect her rights.**" APR 16 1943

The "unlawful actions" above referred to were proposals that perhaps Mrs. Green might be willing to settle the matter by having all expenses paid and quietly moving out. Mrs. Green said **NO!**

PM
New York, N. Y.

Hotel Is Accused Of Barring Negro

APR 14 1943

The manager of the Knickerbocker Hotel, 120 W. 45th St., faces prosecution on a charge of refusing to rent a room to a Negro.

William Bowman, 43, of Saginaw, Mich., an organizer for the United Automobile Workers, CIO, charged in Jefferson Market Court yesterday that Martin A. Nichols, the hotel's night manager, refused him a room because of his color. APR 14 1943

Magistrate Charles C. Keutgen held the manager for Special Sessions. APR 14

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Evict Whites, Gouge Negroes

APR 10 1943

By Eugene Gordon

Three big uptown apartment houses hold the spotlight in their change-over policy from white to Negro tenants.

The first, at 545 W. 158th St., has finally forced all white tenants out and filled up with Negro families.

These Negro families pay $7, $8 and $10 more rent monthly (according to the size of the units) than white families paid.

The **Daily Worker** has in its possession the lease of Madeline Edwards, white, who lived at 545 W. 158th St., from Nov. 15, 1941, to Dec. 14, 1942. It shows that she paid $56 a month for four rooms.

RECEIPT PROVES INCREASE

The Daily Worker has also a cancelled receipt from Mrs. Valria Godfrey, Negro, who has been living in 545 W. 158th St. since Oct. 2, 1942. This receipt shows that Mrs. Godfrey pays $63 a month for a similar four-room apartment—seven dollars more than the white family paid.

The second of these three apartment houses is at 540 W. 158th St., directly across the street from Mrs. Godfrey's. APR 10 1943

Many white families ordered to get out and make room for Negro tenants, moved from the house where Mrs. Godfrey lives into the house opposite—that is, into 540. They hadn't been there long, however, when their landlord told them he was making the house "colored" and that they would have to vacate.

The landlord told them that if they stayed they needn't expect any repairs. One family had been promised an electric refrigerator. She'd never get it, she was told.

Another family, recent refugees from fascist Europe, had opened a small store downstairs. They were forced out, too. They say they could understand such a thing in Nazi Germany.

Negro tenants paid more than white tenants and he wanted the money, the landlord told the refugees. APR 10 1943

Rents in this second house, for the few Negro tenants now there, have gone up from $7 to $10.

THIRD FOLLOWS SUIT

The third house is at 270 St. Nicholas Ave., near 125th St. and the Sydenham Hospital. It is comparatively new and modern and has always been "white." Now, learning, perhaps, how the first two landlords struck gold in Harlem, the owners of this house have decided to make it "colored."

Most of the tenants, as is true in the first two houses, do not object to a "mixed" house but they rebel against moving.

Brunsett, Inc., 209 W. 125th St., the owner, is inventing all sorts of tricks to make the white tenants move.

CREATING DISSENSION

One of the dirtiest of his tricks, according to tenants, is to tell them that it would be "hazardous" for white people and Negro people to live in the same house, they can't live together "amicably."

Owners of the 545 W. 158th St. house, Mrs. Godfrey says, got some of the white tenants out by telling them Negroes did not want white people as neighbors. He said they preferred to be segregated.

The owner of this property is Eugene Ramsey. His brother Edgar is identified as agent.

Negro tenants in 545 W. 158th St., led by Mrs. Godfrey, are fighting to compel Ramsey to lower rents at least to what the former occupants paid. The landlord counters by trying to create dissension among the tenants. He tells them, for instance, that Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey are "undesirable." APR 10 1943

LANDLORD RACKET

The tenants of 270 St. Nicholas Ave., too, have got together for common protection. They have formed a committee to fight the ouster order, retaining Hope R. Stevens as attorney. Referring to the landlord's statement that is was

'hazardous' for white and Negro families to live in the same house, the committee said.

APR 10 1943

"Such statements are shameful, more particularly at this time, when unity of all Americans is so urgently needed. The statement slandered both the Negro and the white races, failing completely to reflect the true attitude of the tenants themselves, who see no reason why whites and Negroes should not live harmoniously in the same apartment house."

The committee plans to appeal to the Office of Price Administration. The tenants in 540 W. 158th St. (opposite the Godfreys) plan to take their case, too, to the OPA, especially in view of the fact that Negroes in the house are paying up to $10 more than their next-door neighbors in the same house.

PM
New York, N. Y

City's Headlong Rush To Approve 'Met Life' Plan Assailed

A call to labor and civic organizations to mobilize quickly to stop the City from rushing into headlong approval of the Manhattan "walled town" project went out today.

MAY 27 1943

The CIO Council of New York announced it had asked all of its unions—representing 500,000 New Yorkers—to protest to Mayor La Guardia against approval of the project plans as they now stand.

And Charles Abrams, lawyer, housing expert, member of the Citizens Housing Council, announced he was sending letters to civic groups after a radio appeal in which he called the post-war project "the first major effort in this state to destroy gains achieved in the fight for equal rights."

Blow to Civil Rights

Abrams privately called the project—which is shot through with racial discrimination—"one of the damnedest things I've ever heard of."

"It will be a serious setback for civil rights," he said.

The "walled town"—to be built by Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. as a housing project—will bar Negroes.

"Planning experts from other cities are studying the program," one official said.

"This will be a precedent. If we bar Negroes from a housing project undertaken with public support here—other cities may in turn bar Jews, Catholics or Protestants, anybody they wish."

Meanwhile the Citizens Housing Council and the CIO Council have protested the City's actions to Mayor La Guardia, who with Park Commissioner Moses supports it.

The "walled town"—to be known as Stuyvesant Town—is a proposed private reconstruction of the famous Gas House District of Manhattan's East Side.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. proposes to raze the Gas House District, from 14th to 20th Sts., and to build a modern but heavily populated district of 35 apartment houses (all 13 stories high).

Unless citizens can stop the City's hasty efforts to approve the project, the City soon will give Metropolitan:

MAY 27 1943

¶ Tax exemption.

¶ 504,000 square feet of free land (worth $5 a square foot).

¶ The right to close the town to the general public after it has been built.

¶ The right to put 25,000 or more people in an area now populated by 11,000.

¶ The right to charge rents which will bar from its apartments thousands of the present East Side dwellers—for whose benefit the project presumably is intended. The rents will be $14 to $16 a room.

Metropolitan has admitted that it does not want Negroes in this public-supported project.

MAY 27 1943

"It seems like placing a hell of a price on Hitler's theory of racism and segregation," one prominent lawyer said.

Unless the public can upset the "timetable" on which the project is being rushed through, the Board of Estimate will hand Metropolitan its contract after a final public hearing next Thursday.

MAY 27 1943

Haste Amazes Planners

Meanwhile the Mayor received a vigorous protest from the New York CIO:

"The proposed contract, if approved by the Board of Estimate, would give official public approval and financial support in the form of tax exemption and the power of eminent domain to a walled city for the privileged within our great cosmopolitan city of New York," the CIO said.

"It is beyond our comprehension how any member of the Board of Estimate who believes in American democracy and who believes in upholding the New York State civil rights law could vote to approve this contract as it now stands."

MAY 27 1943

The City Housing Council wrote the Mayor pointing out that there has not been sufficient time for public consideration of the project. It suggested that the Board of Estimate postpone final action and refer the plans back to the City Planning Commission which approved them.

Meanwhile planning circles in New York and other cities are buzzing at the "blitz" timetable with which the project—which cannot be begun until after the war—has been rushed through toward official City approval with a minimum of time for public discussion.

It was disclosed that Henry Epstein, former State Solicitor General, has taken an interest and has been asked to appear before the Board of Estimate in opposition to the project.

MAY 27 1943

Besides the angle of racial discrimination, here are other points which civic groups protest:

¶ Children from the "walled town" will be dumped into schools in the outlying neighborhood—two of which were built in 1853 and 1855.

(In order to keep Negroes out, there will be no school in the "walled town.")

¶ Metropolitan is guaranteed 6 per cent on its investment. Any time it fails to earn 6 per cent it may apply to the courts to raise the rents.

(But this is a one-way proposition. There is no provision for lowering rents as the project is paid for.)

¶ Metropolitan's estimate of the number of people who will move into the town is 24,315. But this is based on an estimate of 2.75 persons a family. Housing experts say New York families average 3.6 persons, and the number of tenants to be put in the 18 blocks will be closer to 30,000.

The Daily Worker
New York. N. Y.

Negroes Press Fight on Jim Crow 'Met' Project

MAY 28 1943

The Negro Labor Victory Committee has endorsed the movement of Councilman Adam Clayton Powell and Stanley M. Isaacs to prevent the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company from barring Negro tenants from its proposed East Side housing project, Dorothy K. Funn, administrative secretary of the committee announced yesterday.

MAY 28 1943

The project, despite the protests of several civic organizations, was endorsed last Wednesday by the City Planning Commission.

"Not only has the company announced its intention of discriminating against Negroes," said Miss Funn, "but the statement of Frederick A. Eckers, chairman of the Metropolitan board as quoted in the press last week is grossly insulting and intolerable to the Negro people.

"Metropolitan has roughly 2,000,000 Negro policy holders who own $800,000,000 worth of insurance in the company.

"Thousands of them are fighting in the armed forces of the nation today, everywhere in the world. They are fighting against the very ideas which Mr. Eckers and his company presume to inflict upon them and their people on the home front. Unconditional surrender are the terms on which we are fighting Hitler and unconditional surrender of the home-grown fascist ideas are the only terms we will accept.

"This project, we would remind Mr. Eckers, will be erected on the nickels and dimes of the working people who are policy holders in his company. Thousands of these people, members of New York's powerful trade union movement will be present at our Negro Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden on June 7 where they will unite their protests with the Negro people against just such fascist attacks.

"We were shocked that the City Planning Commission by ignoring the protests of several civic organizations gave its stamp of approval not only to the housing project but to the undemocratic promoters of it."

"The measure which Councilman Powell and Isaacs have proposed in the city council has our hearty endorsement."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Fight Color Bar In Big Housing Plan

MAY 29 1943

NEW YORK.—The executive council of the People's Committee has endorsed the movement of its chairman, Councilman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., and his fellow councilman, Stanley M. Isaacs to prevent by council action the Metropolitan Life Insurance company from operating a "jimcrow" housing project here.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance company, they said, numbers two million Negro policy holders owning eight hundred million dollars worth of life insurance. It is planning to erect in the City of New York for a forty million dollar housing project.

MAY 29 1943

This project was approved by the City Planning Commission on May 19. Despite that fact it will house more residents than there are in Danbury, Conn., it does not include one public school. It is felt that this is a move to bar Negroes.

Councilman Powell said, "It is indeed unfortunate that the Metropolitan Life Insurance company in connection with its new development, Studyvesant Town, has not clearly stated that there will be no discrimination whatsoever. Maybe this idea is in the minds of the officials but for fear that it might not be Mr. Isaacs and I are proposing this law. We cannot allow domestic Fascism to score victories at home while our men are dying abroad."

MAY 29 1943

The proposal of Metropolitan Life was also opposed by the N.A.A.C.P. in hearings held at City Hall by the Board of Estimate.

The N.A.A.C.P. based its opposition on the fact that there is no indication that the project will not carry out a racial discrimination policy in the selecting of tenants. The proposed East-side site will house 24,000 persons.

The N.A.A.C.P. urged that the contract between the City of New York and the Metropolitan Life Insurance company provide that no persons be barred from the project because of race, creed, color or national origin.

64-1943

New York

Near 'Stuyvesant Town' They Don't Like 'Met' Jim Crow Plans

New York, N. Y. The Daily Worker

JUN 16 1943

By Eugene Gordon

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. "ought to join up with Hitler & Co.," if it really feels that Negroes should be barred from "Stuyvesant Town" because they and the white tenants wouldn't "mix."

That is the opinion of Harry Seligman, 1641 Sixty-fifth St., Brooklyn, whom we asked, along with other employes of the Zenith Cab Corp., E. 20th St., between Avenue B and Avenue C, what he thought of the Met's promise to keep Negro Americans out of the proposed housing development.

M. Seligman is a taxi driver. He and a group of his budies were enjoying the comparative coolness of the sidwalk beside the broad doors of the taxi stables. Twentieth St., at that point, would the northern boundary of the walled city which Metropolitan Life—with the aid of the City of New York—says its going to build after the war.

"Stuyvesant Town" would cover the area embraced by Avenue C and Second Ave., east and west, and by 14th and 20th Sts., south and north.

ALL HIT WALLED CITY

The **Daily Worker** questioned ten persons, all white except one. Everybody thought the Metropolitan, in its expressed intention to keep out Negro tenants, was going contrary to American democracy.

But they also had other opinions: $14 a room would be too much for the people who now reside in that area. It would mean that they'd have to abandon their homes to the well-to-do from other places, while they, some of whom had lived here for generations, would be left homeless.

"And don't get the idea we're against housing improvement," an elderly Polish woman, on Avenue C, insisted. "Sure we want a good place to live, but we can't pay any $14 a room. Why," she exclaimed, "I need the money for food. Where the money come from?"

This woman, declining to give her name, shrugged and spread her hands when asked whether she thought Negroes should be kept out of "Stuyvesant Town."

"Already we live here," she said, "Catholic people and Jewish people, Polish people and Russian people—and Italian people, too. So why not the Negro people? All people the same, aren't they?"

John Williams, 86 E. 16th St., who sat a few feet away, with a friend, chatting in the cool of a boarded-up building, averred that the Metropolitan official who said black people and white people "won't mix" "ought to have his head examined." He then referred to the East River Houses, Upper East Side, where he helped install plumbing.

"There'd been some talk of setting aside some of them buildings for colored and some for white," Mr. Williams said, "but they did away with that idea and let 'em live all mixed up together."

He hadn't seen any bad results from it, he said.

Nor had the friend, George Smith, of 501 E. 16th St., who added that neither the average Negro nor the average white worker need worry about living in "Stuyvesant Town," "because they couldn't afford it, anyway."

"But if you were going to live in the new development," he was asked, "would you object to Negroes living beside you?"

"Hell, no! Why should I? Isn't this supposed to be a democracy?"

HAVE RIGHT TO LIVE THERE

John D. Caesar, who lives at 1213 Fifty-third St., Brooklyn, was among the group of taxi drivers and mechanics in front of the Zenith Cab Corp., on E. 20th St.

"Listen," he said. "The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. takes the colored people's money and uses it for this Stuyvesant Town development. I say the colored people got a right to live in it."

Mr. Caesar's wife, three children and himself would require five rooms in the walled city, he said, and that would cost him "a fortune"—every bit of $70 a month. The fact that one son is with the Army in New Guinea and another a bombardier instructor at Orlando, Fla., doesn't remove the necessity for five rooms.

It is his opinion that Met's feudacity is intended for the rich, "certainly not for anybody like you and me," he told the reporter.

The only Negro questioned was a special policeman guarding the property of the Consolidated Edison Co., which borders the proposed development. Remarking on Met's allegations that white and colored people can't live harmoniously in the same house, this man—Frank Parker—said that he and another Negro special policeman, working among 150 white ones, did so "in perfect harmony." And when people work peaceably together, he said, they can also live the same way.

"The people who make up America come from all parts of the world," Salvatore Fiduccia, 162 Allen St., Manhattan, pointed out in his argument to prove that you just can't draw a line between races or nationalities and still have democracy.

A pugnacious but friendly little fellow refused to give his name. Fellow workers, however—all this was in front of the taxi stables—told us to call him "James Bosco." He grinned and waved his hand. Call him anything you pleased, he said, but get this:

"Any man that wears the uniform of the United States Army or Navy and fights Hitler has got a right to live anywhere he wants to or can afford to. You can say that for me."

Besides, he added, and Benny Contoto, 1919 Second Ave., and Joseph Pizzoloto, 122 E. Fourth St., agreed with him, "none of us will be able to live in these Stuyvesant Town houses anyway."

Contoto wished it recorded that he has "lived with colored boys five years—played with 'em, went to school with 'em, took showers with 'em, an' everything, so why should I object to living in the Metropolitan's new housing project with 'em?"

JUN 15 1943

JUN 16 1943

JUN 16 1943

JUN 16 1943

JUN 16 1943

Another Foe—Metropolitan Life

MAY 28 1943

"NEGROES AND WHITES don't mix. If we brought them into this development, it would be to the detriment of the city, too, because it would depress (the value) of all surrounding property." Amsterdam News

These were the words of Frederick H. Ecker, chairman of the board of directors of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., when asked why colored people would be barred from living in Stuyvesant Town, the $50,000,000 housing project which the company is seeking to build on the lower East Side. Color, Mr. Ecker said further, would be the only barrier against anyone living in the proposed project.

It is probably futile to attempt to enlighten anyone with such Nazi-like beliefs as the head of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., however, even he cannot refute these facts: (1) Negroes and whites live side by side in public housing projects in such cities as New York and Los Angeles, and the value of the surrounding property has not been depressed. On the contrary, it has risen. (2) The manager of the Jamaica (Long Island) project houses is colored, and the houses are tenanted by both whites and colored. The project is well managed and the tenants are as respectable and well behaved as can be found in any housing project in the country. (3) Harlem River Houses, which happen to be tenanted by all colored families, is also one of the best public housing projects in the country.

New York, N. Y.

Of course, Mr. Ecker, whose insurance company has mixed millions of dollars collected from its thousands of colored clients with millions collected from its white ones with no small degree of enthusiasm, already has a lily-white housing development to its credit, the Parkchester, in the Bronx. When his company began building this project a few years ago, The Amsterdam News vehemently fought it, because of its Jim Crow nature. Now, we unreservedly fight the Metropolitan's bid to build another housing project that bars citizens solely because of their color.

And the Metropolitan can be licked this time if only the fair minded citizens of Harlem and elsewhere in New York unite and demand of the City Planning Commission, Mayor LaGuardia and Gov. Dewey that the company be refused permission to build another Jim Crow project in New York City. We must fight the Metropolitan's Naziism through mass meetings going to see the Governor, the Mayor, the Planning Commission and sending them telegrams and letters, and even picketing the insurance company. The only way to fight bigots is to give all you've got! Ecker is a bigot and he's trying to set back the progress of every citizen of New York by proposing to build another multi-million dollar Jim Crow housing project.

What, indeed, are we fighting this war for? The perpetuation of Nazi-minded people like Ecker? Let us fight him and every other Ecker in America. And now, until we win.

MAY 29 1943

METROPOLITAN LIFE AGAIN

New York, N. Y.

PERHAPS we are getting monotonous on this subject. We have done editorials on the bigotry of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company project several weeks in succession.

The reason is that we consider this decision by Metropolitan Life Insurance to build a post-war community which excludes Negroes, a dangerous Fascist step and

JUN 16 1943

NYC Council Votes 23-1 Against Lily-White Project

Afro-American, Baltimore, Maryland

NEW YORK—By a vote of 23-1, the city council last week adopted a resolution prohibiting discrimination by reason of race, creed or color in the Stuyvesant Town housing project.

La Guardia and the board of estimates which had indicated approval of the project, which would bar colored tenants from its walls.

The resolution, known as Local Law No. 335, was amended to include any war housing project.

The passage of the resolution served as a rebuke to Mayor Opposition against the proposed

JUN 16 1943

living in a project for colored people to be built, twenty-five years, by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

one which will help nullify the victory we will win over Hitler.

We are glad to see the various community-minded organizations and leaders coming to the fore on this issue and expressig their intention to fight it to the bitter end.

That is what we were advocating when practically no one else was vocal on the matter.

You're a little late folks, but better late than never.

Let's join hands and do this thing. We can't fail this way.

Whatever we do, let's not emulate the example of a simple general of whom it was once said that he would mount his horse and gallop off madly in all directions.

JUN 5 1943

Metropolitan Life . . . LaGuardia . . . Dewey. Let's concentrate on them to see that post-war bias fails to mature.

OUR ESTIMATE WAS WRONG

DESPITE THE FERVENT appeals of a number of fair-minded groups that the plans for the project were opposed to the most basic elements of the democracy we are striving for, our Board of Estimate has approved the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's proposed "lily-white" housing development to be built in the heart of New York City.

The New York Age commented on this project over a month ago. In ensuing weeks, other publications picked it up and the hue and cry waxed intense. But all that didn't matter to our Board of Estimate.

New York Age

It would seem that at our last election, the people's estimate of the Board was wrong.

N.Y. City Council Okehs Jim Crow Housing Setup

JUN 12 1943 Chicago Ill. Defender

NEW YORK—(ANP)—The $50,000,000 Stuyvesant Town housing project by the Metropolitan Life Insurance company on Manhattan's East Side was approved Thursday by the city council after a bitter fight during which it was pointed out that the contract contained no clause that would prevent the company from barring Negroes in renting.

JUN 12 1943

More than a score of speakers voiced their objections to the project. They contended that since the Metropolitan had been granted the right of eminent domain as well as a 25-year-old tax exemption on the improved property, the project was public in nature and should be protected from discrimination.

Opposing views were expressed by Park Commissioner Robert Moses and Frederick H. Ecker, chairman of the board of the Metropolitan company, only speakers on behalf of the proposition. Both men contended that privileges extended to the company were "minimum inducements" to encourage slum clearance and service to the city.

When Borough President Edgar J. Nathan Jr., of Manhattan lost on a motion to defer action on the contract to June 24, a vote was taken on the contract itself.

Deputy Mayor Rufus E. McGahen, casting the first ballot—the three votes of the mayor—swung the tide to the proposition by announcing the mayor's approval of the project.

JUN 12 1943

Stanley M. Isaacs, first to raise the charge of discrimination, read an article appearing in the New York Post, quoting Ecker as saying that Negroes would be excluded from the project. He read that "Negroes and whites do not mix. Perhaps they will in 100 years but they don't now." He asked that he be corrected if he had been misquoted. Ecker did not stir.

JUN 12 1943

Isaac, chief opposer, asked that the contract be changed to require the company to set aside ground within the project for a school to be built at city expense, to permit the public to use the premises so that it would not become a "walled city," and to abstain from discrimination in rental because of race, color, or creed.

JUN 12 1943

Former Solicitor General Henry Epstein, a third opposer, termed the project, "A new style ghetto in the midst of this great city, created for the socially select."

"Does New York City want Stuyvesant Town at such a price?" he asked. "Today's Stuyvesant bars Negroes. Tomorrow's will bar Jews. The next day it will bar Catholics," he said.

Protest Jim Crow Housing In N.Y.

Chicago Ill. Defender

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Three labor and civic organizations went on record here last week in protest against the Metropolitan Life Insurance company's $50,000,000 housing project, while a fourth criticized the hasty approval given to the plan by the City Planning commission.

JUN 5 1943

Leading the opposition was the Citizens' Housing council, which pointed out that the carrying out of the planned project would be detrimental to property values elsewhere in the city. The council further objected to the barring of Negroes as tenants.

The Greater New York Industrial Union council of the CIO called on the Board of Estimate to reject a contract under which the city would permit the construction of the project. The organization called the project "a walled city for the privileged" and criticized the proposed discrimination against Negroes.

JUN 12 1943

"Jim Crow" Town In Heart of New York Wins Approval

Amsterdam News New York, N. Y.

The Metropolitan Insurance Company's $55,000,000 "Walled City" housing project on the lower East Side was bitterly assailed by Newbold Morris in a hectic four-hour Board of Estimate session at City Hall last Thursday, before nearly 500 civic, fraternal, religious and political leaders.

In scoring the Jim Crow policy of Metropolitan, President Morris said:

JUN 12 1943

"The whole thing is started with a philosophy which isn't part of our country . . . let's face it fairly and squarely." President Morris further said: "The Metropolitan had quite unnecessarily adopted an anti-Negro policy. I realize that defeat of the project might be a serious setback to slum clearance but the project is nowhere near as large as the principle."

Mayor LaGuardia was not present at the meeting, but was represented by Deputy Mayor Rufus McGahen, who in striking contrast to President Morris voted for the project declaring that LaGuardia was relying on the integrity of Metropolitan not to permit "unfair or unreasonable exclusion."

JUN 12 1943

Case Before Supreme Court

The Anti-Nazi League throughout its attorney, Julius L. Goldstein served Isaac Escholz, acting secretary for the Board of Estimate and City Comptroller Joseph D. McGoldrick a motion notice for a restraining order to prevent carrying out any of the provisions of the contract.

The League also contends that an action by the City involving the rights to private parties for use of City streets requires a three-fourths vote of the Board of Estimate. At last Thursday's session, the vote of the Board was 11 to 5, which although a majority, is one vote short of the three-fourths the League claims is necessary.

League Chairman Raps Policy

James H. Sheldon, administrative chairman of the League announced that court action will be taken because of the already stated contention of the company to practice disrimination in selecting tenants for the new housing project. Mr. Sheldon said the action is being taken "to prevent the setting of a precendent which would allow the management of public and semi-public large scale housing projects to bar individuals because of race, creed or color."

Continuing in his blast of the Jim Crow policy desired by Metropolitan, Sheldon said:

"No safeguards have been provided against discriminations of any kind. This project being the first of a proposed series of large-scale post-war housing enterprises likely to be taken in New York, no Nazi-like discrimination should be permitted.

Says Issue Was Beclouded

Sheldon further said: The Mayor and the City Planning Board officials might very probably not have given their approval of the project, had Metropolitan Chairman made his views on admission of Negroes clear at the beginning."

Assemblyman William T. Andrews, Hulan Jack and Daniel L. Burrows with Urban League Secretary Edward Lewis. The Rev. Ben Richardson, Charles Collins, Ben Davis, Jr., Jack Gleszer [illegible] were among the Harlemites present.

JUN 12 1943

Andrews and Jack were among those who spoke against the Metropolitan's announced anti-Negro policy.

Park Commissione Robert Moses and Metropolitan's president, Frederick Ecker, were the only persons to speak in favor of the project. Moses pointed out that "what the company is going to do about selecting tenants is their own business."

Against these two prominent New Yorkers were Councilman Stanley Issacs, who told the board that, as of now, Negroes have invested $77,000,000 in Metropolitan, former State Solicitor Henry Epstein, who characterized the project as "a new-style ghetto. This project proclaims itself the archangel of what Hitler stands for—the superiority of one race over another."

Schieffelin Hits Jim Crow 'City'

Pittsburgh Pa. Courier

NEW YORK, June 17—Dr. William Jay Schieffelin, chairman of the board of Tuskegee institute, this week came out four square against discrimination because of race, color or creed in the proposed "Stuyvesant Town," $55,000,000 housing project, a subsidiary of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company here.

The 77-year-old philanthropist was the center of a nation-wide controversy several weeks ago when his board considered and approved the acceptance of $100,000 annually from the State of Alabama for post-graduate work in the famous vocational school.

AGAINST SEGREGATION

Dr. Schieffelin's stand became known through a personal letter to Hon. Newbold Morris, president of the council of the city of New York, who voted against acceptance of the contract between the city and the Metropolitan which would make the "walled city"—excluding Negroes—possible. Dr. Schieffelin's letter, in part, read: "I honor you for your brave stand against segregation in your address and vote, regarding the Stuyvesant housing project."

64-1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
MAY 22 1943

A Vicious Project

MAY 22 1943

An Editorial

When the City Planning Commission approved the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company housing project on Manhattan's east side, it put the people of the City of New York officially on record for jim crow.

This project is not a private venture. The city is entering into a contract with the company, giving it eleven acres of land scot free. For 20 years the company is to be relieved of real estate taxes amounting to millions of dollars.

MAY 22 1943

Thus, an agency of the city government is proposing that the city be party to a contract that contains provisions specifically barring Negro people, thereby putting the stamp of approval on segregation. It proposes that the people, including the Negro citizens, assist financially in promoting a jim crow project.

Should this project be approved by the Board of Estimate, which has the final voice, it would cause a storm of bitterness that would give the defeatists and the disrupters of national unity among the Negro people additional ammunition.

MAY 22 1943

A second vicious fact is the closing off of a whole section of the city from the public. Access to the public city streets from Fourteenth to Twentieth and from Avenue A to First Avenue, is to be denied to the people who financed their construction. The area is to be surrounded by high-walled garages so as to "protect" the $14 a room families from the "rabble" outside. The whole concept is revolting to a democratic people and cannot be tolerated by New Yorkers.

A public hearing on the project will be held before the Board of Estimate on June 3. The fight against this piece of aristocratic arrogance and intolerance cannot be left solely to the few public-spirited liberals who have thus far opposed it. The people must intervene to see that they are not made party to it.

Doubtless the Freedom Rally at Madison Square Garden June 7, sponsored by labor and Negro organizations, will also raise its voice in protest.

Pittsburgh Courier
Met's Walled City Case Reaches Court

NEW YORK, N.Y., June 10 — Plans of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company to erect its $55,000,000 segregated housing project received a setback here Saturday when Julius L. Goldstein, counsel for the non-sectarian Anti-Nazi League sought a court order to prevent the Board of Estimates from carrying out the terms of the contract between the city and the insurance company's subsidiary.

New York

Shocked Experts Call for Brakes On Fantastic 'Met Life' Housing

MAY 27 1943

PM
New York, N. Y.
MAY 27 1943

Why the Hurry on 'Walled City' of 24,315 Without One School or Library?

A chorus of shocked protests arose from housing experts, educators and architects today as the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and some public officials rushed ahead with a project to plump 24,315 souls into a "walled city" in Manhattan—without a single schoolhouse, auditorium or public library on the grounds.

The surprising thing, housing experts said, is that all the haste surrounds a post-war project—a project which may not begin for months or even years.

Yet the plans are being thrown through official channels for approval in record time—without a chance for the public to analyze them.

The question which is agitating housing leaders is:

"Why all the extreme haste to get official approval for a project which may not begin for years?"

MAY 27 1943

See Serious Defects

Architects, teachers and housing officials have praised the plan basically—but have found what they describe as serious defects which they say will work against the public good.

Eyes of city planners throughout the nation are on New York's handling of the project—for it's the biggest thing ever tackled in its line and it sets a precedent.

Basically it is this:

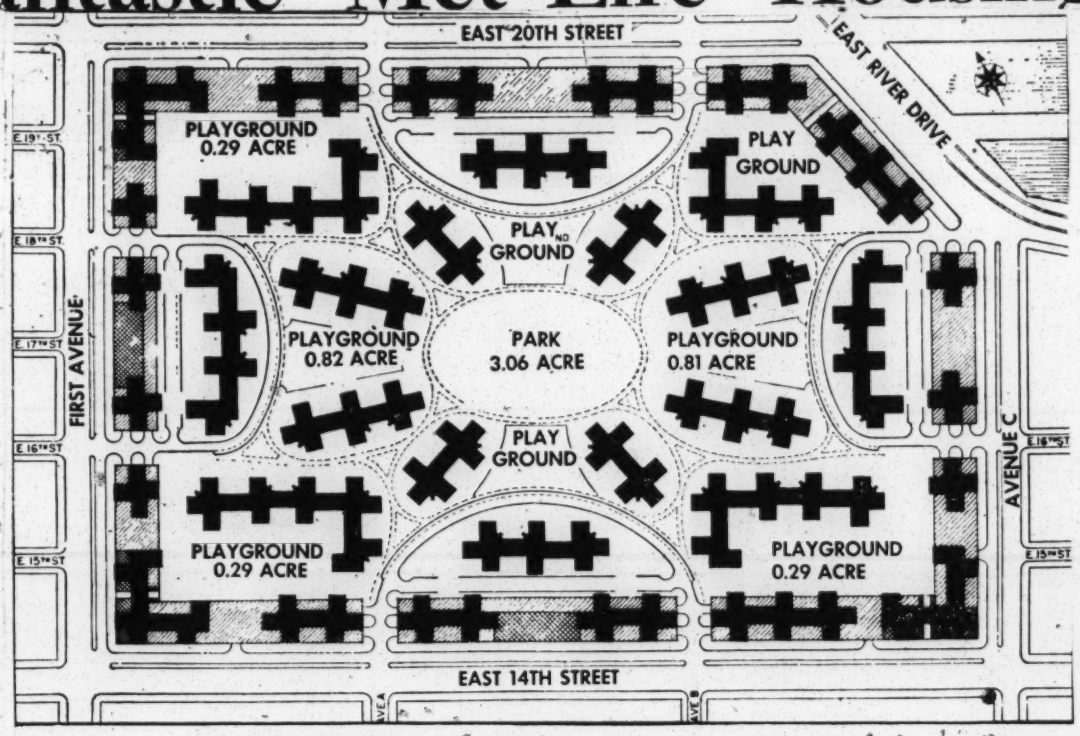
Metropolitan Life has offered to rebuild the "partially blighted" Gas House District of the East Side. Eighteen blocks will be rebuilt—and the population of this area will be jumped—not reduced—from 11,000 to nearly 25,000.

The community will be called Stuyvesant Town.

MAY 27 1943

$16 Average Per Room

The Citizens Housing Council—an organization whose members include many housing experts and members of the City Planning Council itself—estimates that apartments will rent for an average of $16 a room—more than many dwellers now in the area can afford. Metropolitan says the figure will be $14.



The Plan for Metropolitan Life's Stuyvesant Town.

Metropolitan will build 35 buildings, all 13 stories high, some with 10-story wings, whereas the buildings in the Gas House District now average from four to six stories.

Mayor La Guardia and Park Commissioner Moses are plumping for the Metropolitan project. Gov. Dewey signed enabling legislation—but with some doubts about it. The City Planning Commission quickly approved it—but the commissioners also expressed doubts.

MAY 27 1943

Here, briefly, is the plan—and here are the faults which housing experts, architects and lawyers say must be corrected.

Big Chunk of City

¶ A big chunk of Manhattan—from 14th St. to the gas tanks at 20th St., and from busy First Ave. to Ave. C.—is to be acquired by Metropolitan.

¶ Alt[illegible] will [illegible] 11 of the [illegible], [illegible] ill give Metropolit[illegible] tax exe[illegible]ption for 25 ye[illegible] co-operate by forcing the presen[illegible] to sell to Metropolitan at mode[illegible]s—in spite of this help, the projec[illegible] under Metropolitan control—lock, stock and barrel.

¶ Metropolitan will tear down this so-called "blighted area" and will build a "walled town" of 61 acres.

¶ New York taxpayers will help the company by excusing it from all taxes on its investment in excess of the tax which the City is now getting from the buildings in the district. In other words, the assessment of the district will remain at its present level for 25 years.

¶ But in spite of the City's help, Metropolitan will have the right to put up "priva[illegible]" signs on the streets and keep the New York public out.

MAY 27 1943

Lack of a School

¶ In all this private walled city bigger than Danbury, Conn., there will not be a single school nor public auditorium (housing planners say both are essential to democratic communities). For 24,315 people there will be one "large central park of over three acres"—the gift of the City, but which may be closed to city inhabitants living outside the project. There will be four acres in playgrounds which also may be closed to the public.

¶ Lack of a school, a prominent New York educator said, is "shocking."

(A school now serving the district to be "redeveloped" will be torn down and reestablished outside the development. To reach it and other schools, children will have to cross busy traffic arteries.)

A Metropolitan official has said frankly

that Negroes are not wanted—although Negroes are city taxpayers and Metropolitan policyholders.

MAY 27 1943

High-Speed Timetable

And Henry S. Churchill, member of the Citizens Housing Council, on May 23, in a letter to the *Herald-Tribune* said:

"The Metropolitan admits two reasons for this lack [of a school]: 'There is no room for it,' and it does not wish to have outside children enter the project, particularly Negro children."

Here is the high-speed timetable on which the project is being rushed:

April 3: Gov. Dewey signed the Hampton bill, which was rushed through the Legislature without public hearings, the Citizens Housing Council reported. The bill was intended to foster the Metropolitan project.

April 19: Mayor LaGuardia revealed to the public Metropolitan's plans for a "delightful residential community with an atmosphere of trees and parks."

May 5: City Planning Commission held its first hearing.

May 19: Planning Commission's second hearing.

May 20: Planning Commission approved the plans by 5-1 vote.

Hurry, Hurry, Hurry

June 3: Board of Estimate is scheduled to consider the contract, after which it is expected to have final approval.

So fast has been the "timetable" that minutes of the City Planning Commission's hearings will not be available for deliberate public scrutiny in time for the Board of Estimate hearing.

As further evidence of the effects of haste, the Citizens Housing Council was unable to get plans of the project from the Planning Commission until nearly mid-May. This and other organizations found it diffcult to study the plans because they were invited to come to the Commission's office in the tower of the Municipal Building to do so.

"What is needed," said Simon Breines, architect, a member of the Council, "is more time for deliberate public study and discussion of the plans."

MAY 27 1943

Grand Idea—But

Housing experts hold that basically Stuyvesant Town is a grand idea—but it may go wrong. And what's more, they say, public officials, from Gov. Dewey down to Mayor La Guardia, Park Commissioner Moses and the City Planning Commission know there are questionable features.

When Gov. Dewey signed the Hampton bill, which made developments such as the Stuyvesant Project possible, he admitted to some doubts about the law.

He said:

"The purpose of the bill, however, is of such great importance that I have resolved the doubt in favor of the bill.

"The immediate practical problem is housing or no housing. The answer is in favor of housing."

SOAPBOX . .

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

POWELL

MAY 29 1943

THE decision of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to build "a walled city" in Manhattan is another evidence of the growth of southernism in New York City. The acceptance of the project by the City Planning Commission, the endorsement of it by City officials and the forthcoming meeting of the Board of Estimate to officially pass on it, is un-Americanism at its very worst.

Ecker, of the Metropolitan stated that this new project to house 20,000 people will not admit any Negroes. Two million Negroes have policies in the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company aggregating close to one billion dollars. The City is a partner in this new venture—JIM CROW, INCORPORATED.

MAY 29 1943

It will grant millions of dollars of tax exemption to this development to be called Stuyvesant Town.

Stanley Isaacs and I have introduced in City Council a law to forestall this but it looks like the powers-to-be will put a "bum's rush" on the Board of Estimate when it convenes Wednesday, June 2d. The only thing that can be done now in such short time, is to let the members of the Board of Estimate know that their political future is sealed and doomed as far as the Negro voter is concerned if they become members of JIM CROW, INCORPORATED. However, in the Board of Estimate three men—LaGuardia, McGoldrick, Newbold Morris—control the majority of votes between them. Regardless of how the Borough Presidents vote those three can put thru southernism in N. Y. C.

IF THE METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE POLICY GOES THRU IT WILL BE DUE TO THE VOTES OF FIORELLO LAGUARDIA, JOSEPH MCGOLDRICK AND NEWBOLD MORRIS.

This will be a stab in the back to democracy. It can not go thru unless the Metropolitan Life in its covenant with the city specifically states it will accept Negro people.

WE ARE NOT GOING TO ALLOW AMERICAN FASCISTS TO BUILD A SOUTHERN TOWN IN THE HEART OF MANHATTAN.

THIS IS WHAT YOU MUST DO TODAY——

MAY 29 1943

1. Write LaGuardia, McGoldrick, Morris.
2. Write your Borough President.
3. Get all organizations to send letters to these individuals.
4. Arrange appointments with members of the Board of Estimate. Let them know their political future is doomed if they vote in favor.
5. Get out citizen's injunctions now through the courts.
6. Pack City Hall and the park on Wednesday, June 2nd, at 2:30, when the hearing comes up before the Board.
7. Write the Board of Estimate's secretary a registered letter asking for the privilege of speaking.
8. Whether you are going to move or not, write the Metroplitan Life and file application for the Parkchester Development in the Bronx and Stuveysant Town in Manhattan.

MAY 29 1943

Rather have slums in which free people will live than skyscrapers filled with the bastard air of domestic fascism.

After Jack Wins Ouster Suit

Amsterdam Star-News Apr. 10, 1943
New York, N. Y.

JACK JOHNSON, former heavyweight champion of the world, and his wife are shown with Attorney J. D. Williams as they came from court where they resisted efforts of their landlord to evict them from their home. They charged racial discrimination. The suit was dismissed.—(Photo courtesy Herald Express).

AFL Service Union Hits Jim-Crow Project

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

The New York City Government will strike a damaging blow at the war effort if it permits the Metropolitan Insurance Co. to bar Negroes from the projected city-aided housing development on the East Side, said a strong resolution by the Negro and white members of the executive board of Local 144, Hotel Front Courcilman Peter V. Cacchione's Service Employees, AFL, yesterday. demand for a special session of

The union leaders told Mayor La- the legislature to raise municipal Guardia and the Board of Estimate funds and Cacchione's proposal for that such racial discrimination was staggering shifts in Metropolitan in contradiction to the country's industrial plants and offices to ease anti-Hitler war aims.

The executive board also endorsed the problem of transit congestion

MAY 29 1943

64-1943

New York

New Negro Residents Stoned in 'White' Area

PM New York, N. Y.

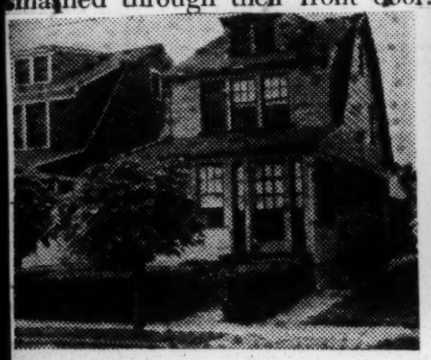
SEP 27 1943

Window Broken, Woman Is Struck During Blackout

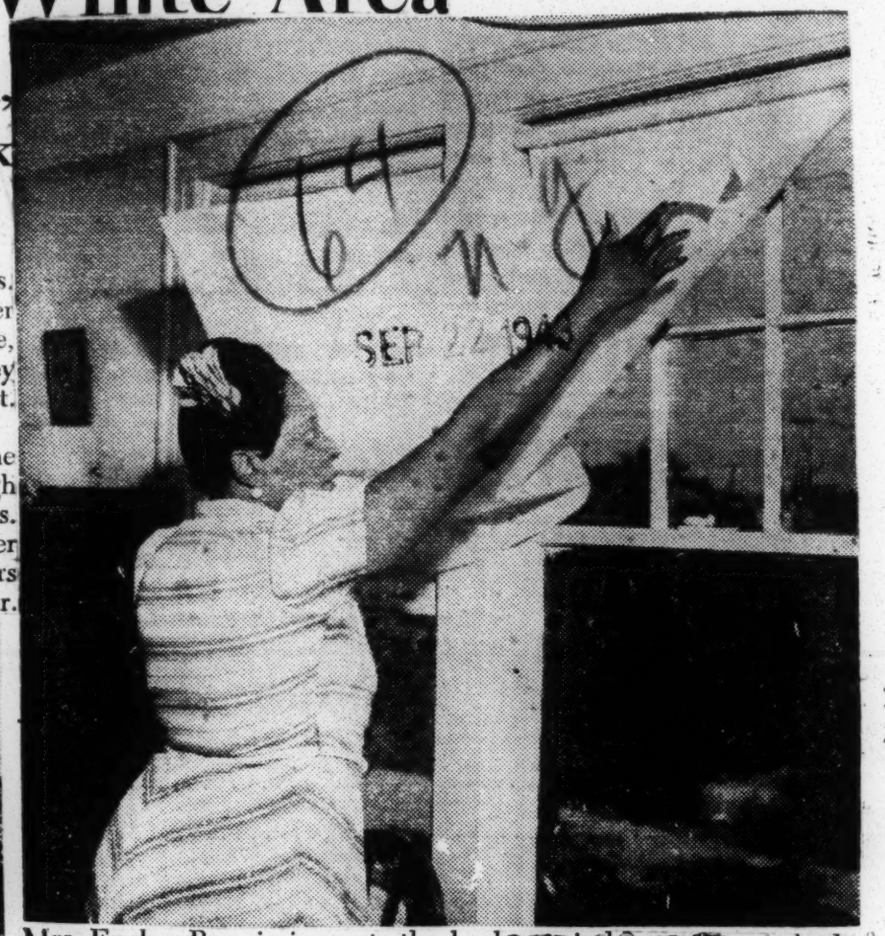
PM Exclusive

Seventeen days ago, Mrs. Evelyn K. Rannie and her husband, Clarence, moved into a house they bought at 114-42 [illegible]h St., St. Albans, Queens.

Monday night, shortly after the blackout, a stone crashed through their bedroom window and hit Mrs. Rannie on the chest awakening her from a sound sleep. Two others smashed through their front door.



The Rannie house in St. Albans.



Mrs. Evelyn Rannie inspects the broken window and torn shade in her bedroom, caused by a stone thrown from the street.

Photos by John DeBiase. PM

The reason for this appears to be the fact that the Rannies are Negroes who bought a house in a block that is populated by whites.

Interviewed yesterday in her spotlessly furnished home, Mrs. Rannie, who, with her husband, operates a beauty parlor in Harlem, said:

"Trouble started the day we moved in. An elderly neighbor stood outside and spit on our hedge and called my husband a 'black nigger.'

"I took this house because it was near a bus line, as my husband goes to work up in Harlem every day. I didn't know anything like this would happen.

"Yesterday afternoon about 15 people from the block stood out in front of my house and yelled 'black nigger' and worse at me until my next-door neighbor told them they ought to be ashamed of themselves.

"I have worked hard like a lot of other poor people to get a house like I've always wanted, and if it is possible I am going to see this business through."

The next-door neighbor, Mrs. Alice Lenehan, who is white and has lived in her house for 14 years, said:

"The Rannies seem to be very nice people. I think the people in the neighborhood are taking the wrong attitude at a time when we are fighting a war against actions of this kind."

Three other neighbors who were interviewed but refused to give their names, however, felt the Rannies had no business moving into the house, but denied taking part in any of the persecution.

Discrimination in YMCA Target of Sharp Blast

NOV 11 1943

Peoples Voice

New York, N. Y.

In a blast at racial segregation and discrimination in the Brooklyn and Queens Young Men's Christian Association, the Committee for Racial Equality, 2013 Fifth ave, this week declared that, "Despite its statements that its '. . . objectives . . . are to aid in the development of Christian standards of personal living . . . and in the building of a Christian society . . . the Brooklyn and Queens YMCA sets an undemocratic example for the community by condoning the practice of racial segregation and discrimination in nine out of 14 branches under its jurisdiction.

"Furthermore, by its refusal to publicize the good interracial work being done in four branches and the boys' summer camp, it fails in its duty to take a position of social leadership in Brooklyn and Queens.

"Therefore, the YMCA must accept a share of the responsibility for interracial distrust and juvenile delinquency prevailing in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area of Brooklyn.

"Of particular significance is the practice of the Bedford Branch, 1121 Bedford ave, which excludes Negroes from membership despite its location in the heart of an area thickly populated by Negroes.

"Since the tax-exempt YMCA enjoys benefits paid for by all taxpayers, it has a moral responsibility to refrain from acting against the public interest, as well as a possible legal obligation to obey the state law prohibiting racial discrimination by tax-exempt educational associations.

"Therefore, the Committee of Racial Equality appeals to the board of directors of the Brooklyn and Queens YMCA to take the following action immediately:

- **"end racial segregation and discrimination by all Brooklyn and Queens branches and open residential, athletic and social facilities to Negroes on the same basis as to whites;**
- **"launch a positive educational program to counteract and eliminate existing racial prejudices among YMCA members;**
- **"initiate a program of interracial fellowship and cooperation within the Bedford branch, to be facilitated by encouraging the enrollment of Negroes from the Bedford-Stuyvesant area in the Bedford branch."**

New Republic New York, N. Y.

Democracy in Action

HOUSE BILL 563 has been introduced in the Legislature at Springfield by five colored representatives to eliminate or invalidate Hyde Park's Restrictive Covenants. . . .

THIS IS A VICIOUS BILL AIMED AT YOU WHICH WOULD DEPRIVE YOU OF YOUR HOME IN HYDE PARK.

It is important that we win this battle on the home front. If we lose this fight, we will suffer the loss of our neighborhood and homes, for which we are being called upon to make great sacrifices in the war effort. PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS TO HOME.

—From a release sent out by the Hyde Park (Ill.) Property Owners, Incorporated.

Delegation Fights Jim Crow Eviction

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y

Murray Klein, owner of the tenement at 325 E. 21st St., who has ordered Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Patterson to get out because the husband [redacted] Negro and the wife white, squirmed in his chair yesterday as a Negro-white delegation blasted his action as the kind that Hitler would approve.

Klein, about July 1, sent the Pattersons a 30-day notice ordering them to vacate their apartment. He at the same time ordered Miss Elsa Stein, a friend, to move because she was supposed to have induced the young couple to move into that tenement. Klein later told Miss Stein, she declares, that she would be allowed to remain there if she quietly got the Pattersons to vacate.

Patterson, whose wife is a refugee from fascist Germany, wrote a letter to Mayor LaGuardia a few days later protesting the landlord's action. He asked the Mayor to help him resist this pressure on the part of a prejudiced landlord. So far there has been no answer to the letter.

LANDLORD'S EXCUSE

In his own defense yesterday the landlord told the delegation a different story. He said that "practically all" of the tenants at 325 E. 21st St. had complained that the Pattersons "made too much noise." The couple, the landlord said "walked over the floor all day and all night," disturbing the tenant underneath. The house adjoins Metropolitan Life's "Stuyvesant Town" Jim Crow project.

Mrs. Charlotte Paterno, who once lived at that address and who knows the Pattersons well, immediately challenged Klein's allegations. Miss Hilda Berry, another member of the delegation, and Mrs. Paterno, told him that they could show him a petition signed by a majority of the tenants declaring that the Pattersons are in no way "undesirable" and that they "have no objection" to his living in the same house.

The landlord then resorted to the strategy that the delegation could not "scare" him and that he could do as he pleased with his own property. They retorted that he may have the "right" under the law to do as he pleased with his property but that he had no right, during an anti-fascist war, to discriminate against a person because of race or nationality.

NEW ARGUMENT

When he defended himself with the argument that he has "lots of decent colored people in my houses in Harlem," he was reminded that his present action seemed to mean that if they remained in Harlem everything would be all right but that when they tried to seek homes elsewhere he objected.

The delegation, on parting, told Mr. Klein that the case had the support of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, the Consolidated Tenants League and other organizations and that it would be fought out in the court, if necessary.

Other members of the delegation were Mrs. Dorothy K. Funn, of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, Miss Stein, the tenant friend of the Pattersons, and Mr. Patterson.

Tenants Beat Back Jim Crow Eviction

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y

Eugene Gordon

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Patterson, he an airplane parts worker in a war plant and she (a refugee from Nazi Germany) a housewife, are remaining in their small tenement flat at 325 E. 21st St., from which landlord Murray Kline has tried to evict them.

Mr. Kline on June 1 sent the Pattersons a 30-day notice ordering them to get out. He at the same time told Miss Elsa Stein, a friend of the Pattersons, to get out, too, because she was supposed to have invited the young couple to move into that tenement. Klein later told Miss Stein she could stay if she would induce her friends quietly to move. She refused.

The landlord's objection to the Pattersons was that the youthful husband was a Negro.

Both the Pattersons and Miss Stein have, for the moment, it seems, won a victory. They said yesterday, however, that they were keeping their eyes open for any "funny business" on his part.

LANDLORD ACCEPTS RENT

Their victory is that Miss Stein, who was ordered to vacate her flat by August 1 but who, instead, sent in her rent, is still there; that the Pattersons ordered to vacate by August 15 but who, instead, also paid their rent as usual, are also still there. What clinches the bargain, in their opinion, is that the landlord has sent them receipts for their rent, thus acknowledging both that he received and accepted the money and that his efforts to get them out are—at any rate, temporarily—ended.

In between the first order to vacate the flats and the landlord's final return of receipts for the rents there occurred considerable activity on both sides.

Lawrence and Anita Patterson had been in the flat three weeks when they got the 30-day ouster notice. Consulting their friend Elsa Stein, they found that she also had got one. Going to the agent for the house, they were told bluntly that the Pattersons were "undesirable." Miss Stein, when she interceded, was told that she had become "undesirable" because she was their friend.

The Pattersons protested to Murray Klein, owner, of 130 W. 142nd St. Klein immediately convassed other tenants in the house, coming back with the statement that they all objected to Patterson. The Pattersons and Miss Klein also canvassed the tenants, finding out that practically none of them objected to the couple.

APPEALS FOR HELP

The landlord, confronted with a petition signed by most of the tenants, all white, protesting the Pattersons' right to live there, shifted to the position that somebody had complained of the couple's "rowdiness." The young husband, in a letter to Mayor LaGuardia, denied this charge, declaring:

"I am sure that there is no other reason than his prejudice against Negroes. I, my wife and my brother (who lives with us) all work all day. We have no radio and give no parties."

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson got in touch with a number of organizations, appealing for help. These included the Consolidated Tenants League, the Negro Labor Victory Committee, and the Stuyvesant Victory Center, a Communist Party club in that neighborhood. The Communist Party, seeing in the landlord's attack a part of Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.'s anti-Negro campaign in preparation for its jim crow "Stuyvesant Town" housing project, assigned Charlotte Paterno, a member of the Center, to fight beside the Pattersons.

Mrs. Patterson tried to interest the city's daily press in the fight. Despite personal visits and pleas by phone, every newspaper in the city, except the Daily Worker, ignored it.

A **Daily Worker** reporter was present at the interview between landlord Murray Klein and a delegation representing the Pattersons on July 28. Klein at that time tried to browbeat them but failed. Thereafter, having been told that he would be fought through the courts as well as in the **Daily Worker**, he apparently lost some of his belligerency.

Mrs. Paterson is expecting a baby soon. Her husband, in the meantime, is scheduled for early induction into the United States Army.

Court to Rule on Jim-Crow Project

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y

The shameful and undemocratic policy of excluding the Negro people from the Stuyvesant Town Housing Project is due [redacted] test before the Supreme Court.

The suit filed by Eliot D. Pratt to restrain the city and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. from carrying out their plans for a Jim Crow Stuyvesant Town will be argued before that Court on Thursday, August 19.

The complaint, filed yesterday, charged discrimination in the use of city funds and property and questioned the city's right to grant the Metropolitan a 25-year exemption on taxes on improvements to that part of the city where Stuyvesant Town is to be built.

In objecting to the exclusion of the Negro people in this housing project, Pratt stated that "it seems fairly evident that the discrimination that is planned would simply strengthen and make more dangerous an already dangerous issue."

Pratt asserted he had taken this action as a taxpayer. "Besides the question of tax exemption, it seems to me that anybody given the liberties the Metropolitan is receiving from the city should have to conform to the common social necessities, such as schools and streets," he said.

Organizations supporting the suit included the Citizens' Housing Council of New York, the Citizens' Union, the City-Wide Citizens' Committee against Race Discrimination in the War Effort, the New York Committee of the American Civil Lberties Union and the Greater New York Industrial Union Council [redacted].

Henry Epstein, former State Solicitor General, and Edward Weinfeld, former Commissioner of the State Division of Housing were among the group of lawyers who prepared the action.

64-1943
Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK

Jim Crow Breaks Loose In St. Albans

Hurl Stones At Windows During Night

Object to Negroes Buying Home in Section; New Owners to Fight Issue

By EUNACE WOODSON

"WHY DON'T YOU NIGGERS GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM?"

Shamelessly ignorant of the spectacle they were creating in the eyes of "Four Freedom" conscious Americans, so-called respectable white residents of St. Albans, Long Island, hurled these insults at Clarence Rannie and his wife, who had just moved into the two-story frame structure at 114-12 169th St.

"All my life I've wanted to have a little house of my own where I could breathe freely and live in peace", Rannie said, "the constant harrassment and crowds were always yelling, and always at night. Once I came home to find my wife besieged with women outside screaming at her."

"Going To Stay"

"But," the weary home-owners was decisively solemn as he declared, "I'm going to stay here, I'll stay even if they find me dead in my home some day." Which is not a very pleasant aspect for future happiness in a home brought through the sweat of the brow.

The two-story structure was purchased through the offices of Hugo R. Heydorn as represented by D. Horton Black. The Rannies took possession on Sept. 8th, and immediately set up housekeeping. Even as the moving men brought in their furniture, white neighbors became incensed at the idea of Negroes moving in their midst.

It Happened Here

No, this didn't happen in some far off town below the Mason-Dixon line, it happened here in New York, where the pursuit of happiness for rich or poor, regardless of race, creed or religion, is SUPPOSED to prevail.

The irate whites concerned in this case, were relentless in their exploitation of the peaceable Rannies. For according to Clarence, on the night of New York's most recent blackout, they had retired early, but were suddenly awakened by a stone hurled through the bedroom window. Rocks were thrown through the front door panes. All this happened despite the fact that police had been called five times, and were patroling the block.

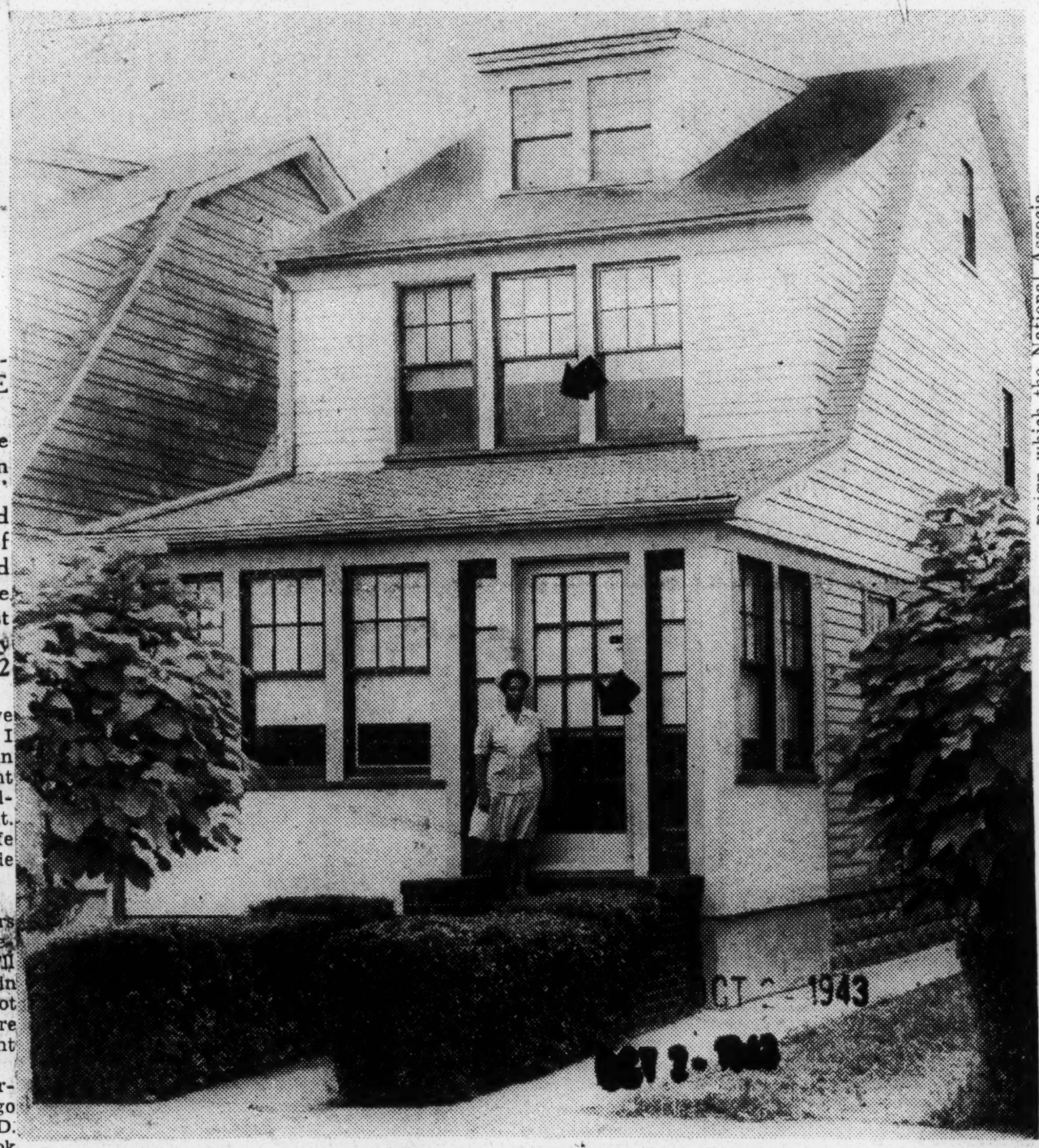
The brighter side of the story was that a Mrs. Alice Lenehan, also white and a resident of the house adjacent to the Rannies, tried to influence the crowd in abandoning their atrocious behavior. Mrs. Lenehan, depressed over the affair, explained, "We're fighting a war against this kind of thing. The Rannies seem to be very nice people. I think the neighborhood is taking the wrong attitude at a time when we're fighting a war against actions of this kind."

Own Harlem Shop

Clarence and Evelyn Rannie are the owners of a beauty shop in Harlem and formerly lived over the establishment at 429 Lenox Ave. The main object of taking the house was because it was near a bus line, as Mr. Rannie still commutes to Manhattan every day.

Theirs is a spotlessly furnished home, where they have received many interviewers. But the beauty of surroundings was smeared when Rannie told how a [illegible]man spit on me and [illegible] night my car tires were punc[illegible]ed. And, when my nephew, an Army Sgt., drove out to see us, his car tires were punctured. The same thing happened to some friends last Sunday.

NO! It can't happen here, not in New York, — but it DID!



SCENE AT ST. ALBANS' "RACIAL" THREAT—Irate white residents in St. Albans, Long Island, ran amuck last week and with wild howls of "dirty niggers" threw stones through the windows (arrows point to spots of this house in which the Clarence Rennie family moved on September 8. The house is located at 114-12 169th St., has been the scene of the year's most sensational "Jim Crow" stunt. (See story to left).

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Assemblyman Jack to Go Back Jimcro to Go on Trial in N.Y. Legislature: Stuyvesant-Hillburn Bills

Bills to amend state laws so as to outlaw the anti-Negro discrimination of New York's Stuyvesant Housing Project, and the jimcro gerrymander which made possible the present school segregation scandal in Hillburn, NY, will be introduced in the State Legislature by New York Assemblyman Hulan Jack, it was announced Saturday.

The announcement followed unanimous approval of the project by the board of the International Labor Defense necessary research work in connection with preparation of the possible backing introduced with the widest offense of which Assemblyman Jack is a member, and to open a campaign to backing.

TO SUPPORT NAACP

"The plan to have these measures presented, which is not a secure organization endorsements, and to open a campaign to LD TO SUPPORT NAACP

"The plan to have these measures enacted into law is not a situation at its recent meeting. analysis of the measures that when the ures enacted in for the present campaign which the National Association for Advancement of Colored People is so ably conducting to break down the Jim-Crow gerrymandering in Hillburn," the International Labor Defense announcement said.

"We will give our fullest support to the very concrete work which the NAACP is doing in this particular situation.

"We feel it necessary, however, that state laws be enacted which will strengthen the fight against jimcro wherever it exists. The Stuyvesant Town and Hillburn situations have brought to light obvious loopholes in the state anti-discrimination laws. We aim to plug them, and any other such loopholes as may appear from time to time.

TO OUTLAW JIMCRO

"The Stuyvesant Town Bill as

The Board voted to provide the [illegible] opens in January they substitute for t

64-1943
Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK

Jim Crow Breaks Loose In St. Albans

Hurl Stones At Windows During Night

OCT 2 - 1943

Object to Negroes Buying Home in Section; New Owners to Fight Issue

By EUNACE WOODSON

"WHY DON'T YOU NIGGERS GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM?"

Shamelessly ignorant of the spectacle they were creating in the eyes of "Four Freedom" conscious Americans, so-called respectable white residents of St. Albans, Long Island, hurled these insults at Clarence Rannie and his wife, who had just moved into the two-story frame structure at 114-12 169th St.

"All my life I've wanted to have a little house of my own where I could breathe freely and live in peace", Rannie said, "the constant harrassment and crowds were always yelling, and always at night. Once I came home to find my wife besieged with women outside screaming at her."

"Going To Stay"

"But," the weary home-owners was decisively solemn as he declared, "I'm going to stay here, I'll stay even if they find me dead in my home some day." Which is not a very pleasant aspect for future happiness in a home brought through the sweat of the brow.

The two-story structure was purchased through the offices of Hugo R. Heydorn as represented by D. Horton Black. The Rannies took possession on Sept. 8th, and immediately set up housekeeping. Even as the moving men brought in their furniture, white neighbors became incensed at the idea of Negroes moving in their midst.

It Happened Here

No, this didn't happen in some far off town below the Mason-Dixon line, it happened here in New York, where the pursuit of happiness for rich or poor, regardless of race, creed or religion, is SUPPOSED to prevail.

The irate whites concerned in this case, were relentless in their exploitation of the peaceable Rannies. For according to Clarence, on the night of New York's most recent blackout, they had retired early, but were suddenly awakened by a stone hurled through the bedroom window. Rocks were thrown through the front door panes. All this happened despite the fact that police had been called five times, and were patroling the block.

The brighter side of the story was that a Mrs. Alice Lenehan, also white and a resident of the house adjacent to the Rannies, tried to influence the crowd in abandoning their atrocious behavior.

Mrs. Lenehan distressed over the affair, explained, "We're fighting a war against this kind of thing. The Rannies seem to be very nice people. I think the neighborhood is taking the wrong attitude at a time when we're fighting a war against actions of this kind."

Own Harlem Shop

Clarence and Evelyn Rannie are the owners of a beauty shop in Harlem and formerly lived over the establishment at 429 Lenox Ave. The main object of taking the house was because it was near a bus line, as Mr. Rannie still commutes to Manhattan every day.

Theirs is a spotlessly furnished home, where they have received many interviewers. But the beauty of surroundings was smeared when Rannie told how a woman spit on me and that night my car tires were punctured. And, when my nephew, an Army Sgt., drove out to see us, his car tires were punctured. The same thing happened to some friends last Sunday.

NO! It can't happen here, not in New York, — but it DID!

SCENE AT ST. ALBANS' "RACIAL" THREAT—Irate white residents in St. Albans, Long Island, ran amuck last week and with wild howls of "dirty niggers" threw stones through the windows (arrows point to spots of this house in which the Clarence Rennie family moved on September 8. The house is located at 114-12 169th St., has been the scene of the year's most sensational "Jim Crow" stunt. (See story to left).

Jimcro to Go on Trial in N.Y. Legislature:

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

Assemblyman Jack to Back Stuyvesant-Hillburn Bills

OCT 23 1943

Bills to amend state laws so as to outlaw the anti-Negro discrimination of New York's Stuyvesant Housing Project, and the jimcro gerrymander which made possible the present school segregation scandal in Hillburn, NY, will be introduced in the State Legislature by New York Assemblyman Hulan Jack, it was announced Saturday.

The announcement followed unanimous approval of the project by the national board of the International Labor Defense necessary research work in connection with preparation of the introduced with the widest fense of which Assemblyman Jack is a member, and to which he presented an analysis of the situation at its recent meeting.

The Board voted to provide the necessary research work in connection with preparation of the bills, and to open a campaign to secure organization endorsements of the measure that when the ures enacted into law is not a substitute for the present campaign which the National Association for Advancement of Colored People is so ably conducting to break down the Jim-Crow gerrymandering in Hillburn," the International Labor Defense announcement said.

"We will give our fullest support to the very concrete work which the NAACP is doing in this particular situation.

"We feel it is necessary, however, the state laws be enacted which will strengthen the fight against jimcro wherever it exists. The Stuyvesant Town and Hillburn situations have brought to light obvious loopholes in the state anti-discrimination laws. We aim to plug them, and any other such loopholes as may appear from time to time.

TO OUTLAW JIMCRO

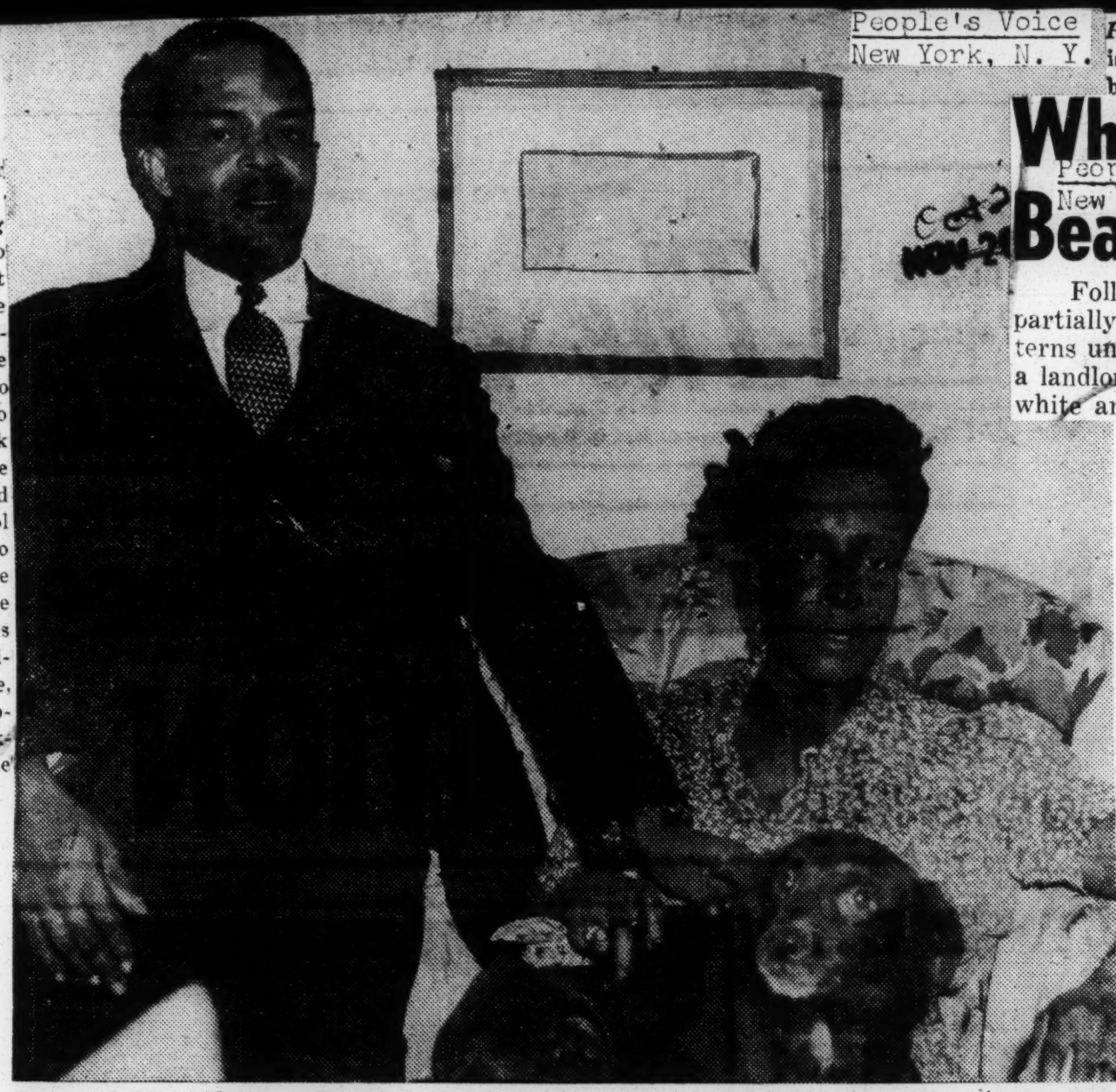
"The Stuyvesant Town Bill as

outlined by Assemblyman Jack will not only prohibit anti-Negro policies by any public or semi-public housing project in the future—it will outlaw the existing discrimination in the plans for that particular housing project.

"The Hilburn gerrymandering of school districts brings into focus a situation which exists not only in that town, but also in the city of New York. We are informed that in some instances the gerrymandering has been cut so fine that where there is a Negro population or one side of a block and a white population on the other, the district is so arranged that white pupils go to a school two blocks away and the Negro children to a school ten or more blocks away. Our attorneys are confident that this system violates the spirit of the school and anti-discrimination laws of the state, and that amendments to the appropriate state laws can be worked out which will prohibit the practice."

OCT 23 1943

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.



Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rannie, who found menacing neighbors when they moved into 114-12 E 169 st, St. Albans, Long Island, find peace and quiet now after a Flushing judge gave a lesson in democracy to their Axis-minded attackers. (Story below).

Family Wins Against Whites Who Stoned Home

Special

Clarence Rannie and his wife Evelyn, whose newly-acquired home in St. Albans, Long Island, was stoned last week while they slept, and who themselves were spat upon and subjected to the vilest invectives and threats by white neighbors for days, were not only vindicated in their rights Friday, by a Flushing judge but are seeing a complete reversal of neighbors' attitudes. Old Mrs. Schmidt, too, before the court a contrite and bewildered figure. She was deserted. All the other old ladies who had helped her to harass the Rannies did not come to court.

Censoring her as a ringleader, the judge said:

● "This gentleman does not want to prosecute you. He only wants to make sure you do not interfere with his home."

● He told her to "shut up" when she wailed about others. "I want you to know these people can live in any community they wish. Do you understand this is America?"

Next door to the Rannies lives 60-year-old Alice Lenehan, whose parents used to own the old Hunter Iron Works in Harlem. When the other women gathered to abuse Mrs. Rannie, she hotly defended her. She told the crowds Negroes were fighting to win the war and that she was ashamed of them. They in turn called her "nigger lover" and said, "I bet you wouldn't let Father Murphy hear you say that." She retorted I would "let the world hear me." She expressed her sympathies at length to PV reporter.

The Rannies' house, 114-12 E 169 st, is one of the finest on the block. The interior is the typical well-appointed suburban home. Mr. and Mrs. Rannie are cultured, friendly and hospitable. They told PV they believed all the trouble is over and that they expect to be very happy.

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.

White-Negro Couple Beats Jimcro Eviction

Following a consistent practice of dispensing justice impartially, OPA again refused to encourage race-hating patterns under any guise, when the rent control division denied a landlord the right to evict a family because the father is white and the mother is Negro. Last week it was revealed that OPA cracked down on the well-established practice of raising rents on houses newly converted to Negro tenants.

This week, Louie H. Pink, area rent director, acting upon the advice of Maurice R. Whitebrook, OPA chief attorney, after 20 days investigation, declared:

● 'We have no evidence to support the contention that Mr. and Mrs. Larry Williams and their child, living at 58 W 106 st, are undesirable tenants."

The complaining landlord was refused a certificate of eviction 20 days ago. According to practice, a case must be held for 20 days. In the meantime, the landlord has appealed to the regional office of the OPA for a reversal of the decision.

PV's investigation found the following facts:

MIXED COUPLE are Larry and Alphie Williams, whose presence in apartment house aroused ire of natives. See below.

● PV reporter found Mrs. Williams an intelligent, most tastefully dressed and very charming young woman. Her apartment was well appointed. Richard, the son, plays with and has many friends in the neighborhood. That they lived on 100 and on 99 sts without trouble for several years.

● The Williams family had trouble with but one old woman. When she was taken to court, the old woman dan out and left a 15-year-old boy in court. The case was dismissed when the Williamses told the judge they would drop the case on condition that the old woman would not molest them again. She didn't. White tenants in the house told PV reporter, the Williamses were "nice people who never bothered anybody."

● Although the landlord claims the presence of the mixed couple will cause his house to lose tenants, it is a fact that the house is still filled and the Williamses have been there since September first.

● The apartment is an all-Negro house on the corner of the block.

DEC 4 - 1943

64-1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

New York

White Tenants Rally to Save Negro Family From Eviction on East Side

When the landlord at 325 E. 21st St., Manhattan, ordered Lawrence and Anita Patterson, tenants, to get out because, like his fellow landlord, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., he doesn't want Negroes and whites to live together, he forgot to reckon with the Patterson's neighbors.

JUL 12 1943

Agent of the premises, Murray Klein, displaying the same jimcrow mentality as the owners of the adjacent 'Stuyvesant Town' project, is seeking to evict the Patterson couple because Mr. Patterson is a Negro. (Mrs. Patterson, a refugee from Nazi Germany, is white.)

NEIGHBORS RALLY

But the neighbors think the Patterson couple is 'desirable' and they have rallied behind the fight to prevent the eviction. Up to yesterday 14 of the 32 tenants in the building had signed the following statement:

"We, the tenants of 325 E. 21st St., have no objection to Mr. and Mrs. Patterson's living at this house."

Only four of the 32 tenants were outright hostile to the mixed couple being their neighbors.

The young Negro war worker has written a letter to Mayor LaGuardia protesting this new 'Stuyvesant Town' discrimination and asking his help to resist "this race persecution." Mr. Patterson cited the Mayor's declaration of June 25 that "it is my one aim to extend the equal protection of the law to all."

JUL 12 1943

"I will shortly be called upon to enter the army and fight for democracy," the Negro tenant wrote the Mayor. "Will you help me fight for democracy here—and now?"

Anita Patterson, who has seen first hand the honors of fascism, told the Daily last night, it's hard to believe that she had thought she had left that sort of thing behind in Nazi Germany.

The Pattersons have been married ten months. Adjoining their apartment on the top floor of the tenement lives Elsa Stein, the friend who induced them to move here so that Mr. Patterson could be near the airplane-parts factory where he works.

Miss Stein was told by Mr. Klein that she too must vacate the premises unless, of course, she could persuade her friends to move "as quietly as possible."

JUL 12 1943

Judging from the names of the neighbors—Cardello, Sivino, Rosenkranz, Hutton, Copellini, and the like—they are Jewish, Italian, "American." In addition to writing their names to the protest, they made some strong statements, too. Frank Rosa, Apt. 26, said that was what we are fighting against. His son in an army camp in Tennessee, Mr. Rosa said, sometimes writes about similar mistreatment of the Negro people down there. Both he and his son hate it, he said.

PROTESTS RACE HATE

Mr. Rosenkranz, Apt. 12, exclaimed: "What do they want? To continue the race riots here, like in Detroit? Is this the democracy we're fighting for?"

Mr. Sckruter, of Apt 12-A impatiently brushed aside the Pattersons' explanations of why they wanted the statement signed.

"I'm not interested in that. You have as much right to live here as anybody else who pays his rent and doesn't disturb anybody."

The Stuyvesant Victory Center, 12th AD Communist Party, is among the organizations which have pledged to help. **This club will, among other things, urge the Mayor to speak out in one of his weekly radio talks against the kind of fascist indignity this young couple is suffering.** Perhaps Mr. LaGuardia will recognize his own indirect part in it all, in that he has encouraged the jim-crow "Stuyvesant Town" project.

Assemblyman William T. Andrews, in the meantime, is handling legal end of the case.

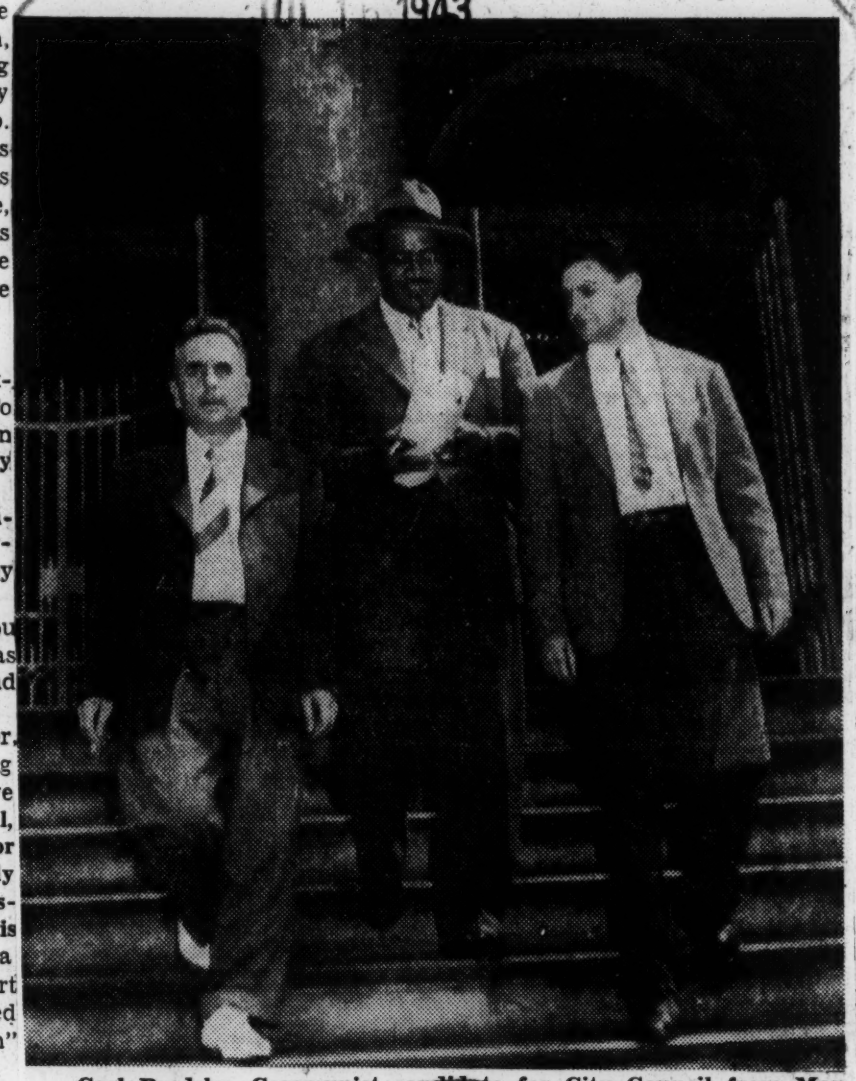
Interest in the fight in the community has been stimulated by the vigorous struggle now being waged against the Met Walled City project only a few blocks away from the Pattersons'. The project, to occupy the area between 14th and 20th Streets and First Ave. and Avenue C, will be the first great housing project in New York City after the war. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., constructing the buildings partly on city funds, refuses to admit Negroes as occupants.

JUL 12 1943

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Communist Leaders at City Hall

JUL 15 1943



Carl Brodsky, Communist candidate for City Council from Manhattan; Ben J. Davis, Jr., chairman of the New York County Committee, Communist Party, and John Lavin, administrative secretary of the County Committee, leaving City Hall. The delegation presented Mayor LaGuardia a petition signed by 2,000 persons condemning jim crow in Metropolitan Life's proposed housing development, "Stuyvesant Town," and demanding that the Board of Estimate's approval of the project be rescinded unless objectional features be removed.

Tenant Groups Fight Jim Crow Eviction

The Daily Worker New York, N. Y.

JUL 22 1943

The Consolidated Tenants League, the Negro Labor Victory Committee and the Vladeck Tenants League, agreed in a conference last night to fight together for the right of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Patterson to continue as tenants at 325 E. 21st St., despite their landlord's attempt to evict them as "undesirable."

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson, and a friend in the house, Miss Elsa Stein, say that the landlord's agent, Murray Klein, 130 W. 42nd St., ordered the couple to move because they are "mixed." Mr. Patterson, a young worker in an airplane-parts factory, is a Negro. His wife, Anita, a refugee from Nazi Germany, is white.

Miss Stein, also white, has been ordered to move because she invited the Pattersons to come and live at 325 E. 21st St., so he could be near his job.

JUL 29 1943

Donelan Phillips, head of the Consolidated Tenants League, represented that organization at last night's conference. The Negro Labor Victory Committee was represented by Mrs. Dorothy K. Funn, administrative secretary, who also presided at the meeting.

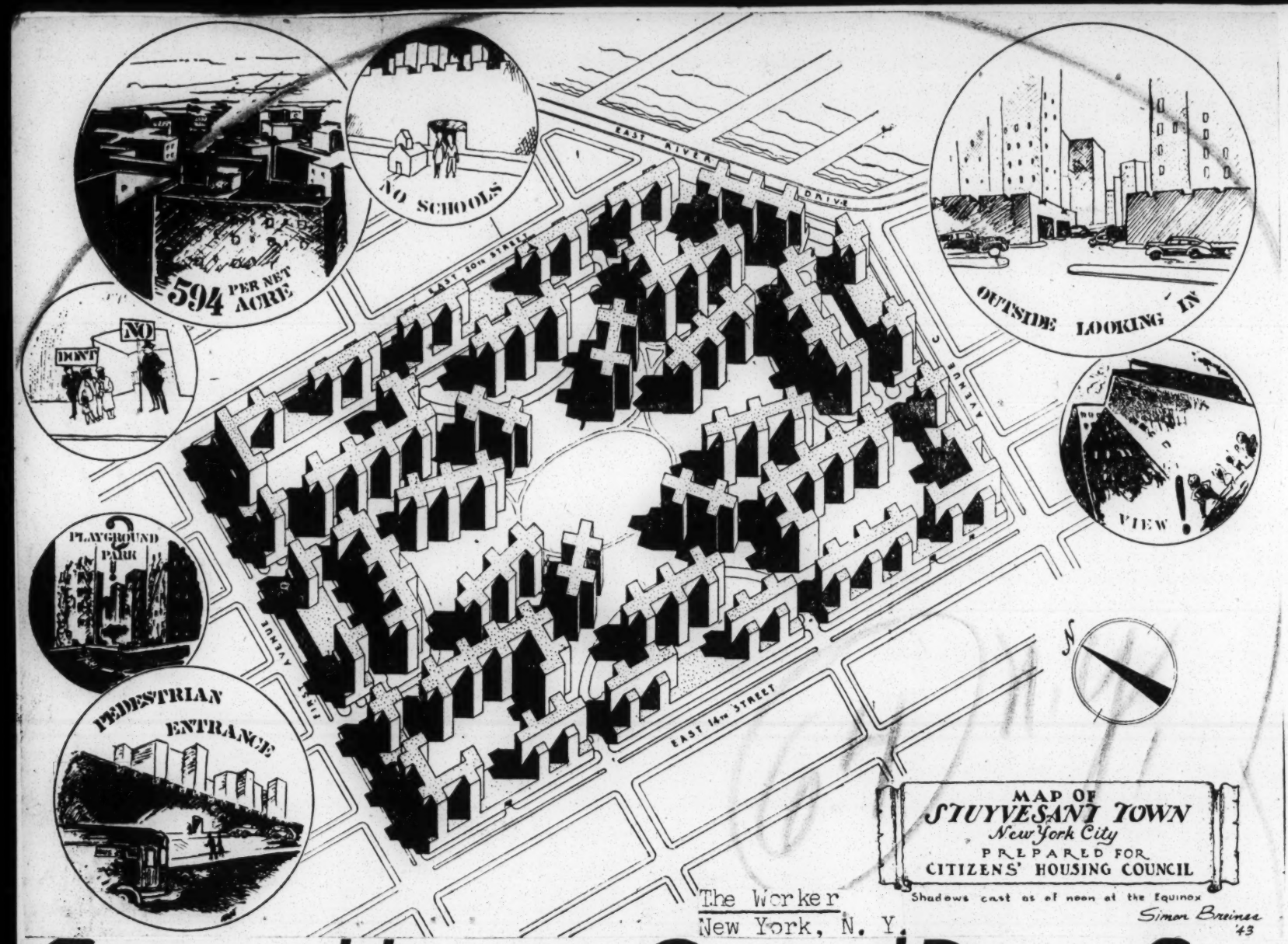
The organizations agreed to support the couple in court when the eviction case comes up within 10 days. Mayor LaGuardia, in the meantime, will be requested in his weekly radio talk to condemn any landlord's branding tenants "undesirable" and forcing them to move because the landlord or his agent objects to the husband's or wife's race or nationality.

JUL 22 1943

Most of the tenants in the house have expressed disapproval of the agent's action. The fight for the right of the Pattersons to live where they wish will be made a part of the campaign against the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's "Stuyvesant Town" jim-crow project.

JUL 22 1943

It is thought that the Met's announced policy of barring Negroes from its project influenced the landlord of 325 E. 21st St., to make his property, also, "lily white." The properties adjoin each other.



The Worker
New York, N. Y.

Citizens Housing Council Raises Some More Objections to Jim-Crow Project

JUN 28 1943

Never before has a New York housing problem aroused such city-wide interest and concern as the Stuyvesant Town Development, says the current issue of the **Housing News**, organ of the Citizens Housing Council.

Stuyvesant Town is the $40,000,000 east side post-war project planned by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, with city participation.

Housing News reports that more than twenty civic, labor, business and welfare groups, including the Citizens Housing Council, had urged the Board of Estimate and the City Planning Commission to take more time for consideration of this post-war project, which will set a pattern for urban development in the city.

JUN 28 1943

The issue of the Housing News says, is whether the city and the company will have a community of which they can be proud, or whether "we shall have thirty-five 13-story monuments to mistaken haste."

Despite powerful protests the City Planning Commission and the Board of Estimate both passed on the project, for which the city is granting substantial tax limitation for 25 years and for which it is donating public streets. A widespread movement to get the Board of Estimate to reconsider is under way, and are several court actons.

Following are the six objections offered by the Citizens Housing Council to the project:

1. A Walled Town. As can be seen from the accompanying map, the periphery of the area would be one-story garages and 13-story apartment buildings, some of them with 10-story wings. These would combine to form an enclosure completely obstructing the public view of the project except for partial glimpses at the eight entrances, each of which is to be marked "private street."

JUN 28 1943

2. Lack of Community Facilities. Th play and recreation space to be provided would be inadequate even for the tenants themselves. No provision has been made for a school, library, health center, or indoor commuity facilities. A public school now on the site would be torn down and replaced outside the project. In order to attend school, all children in the project would be required to cross busy thoroughfares.

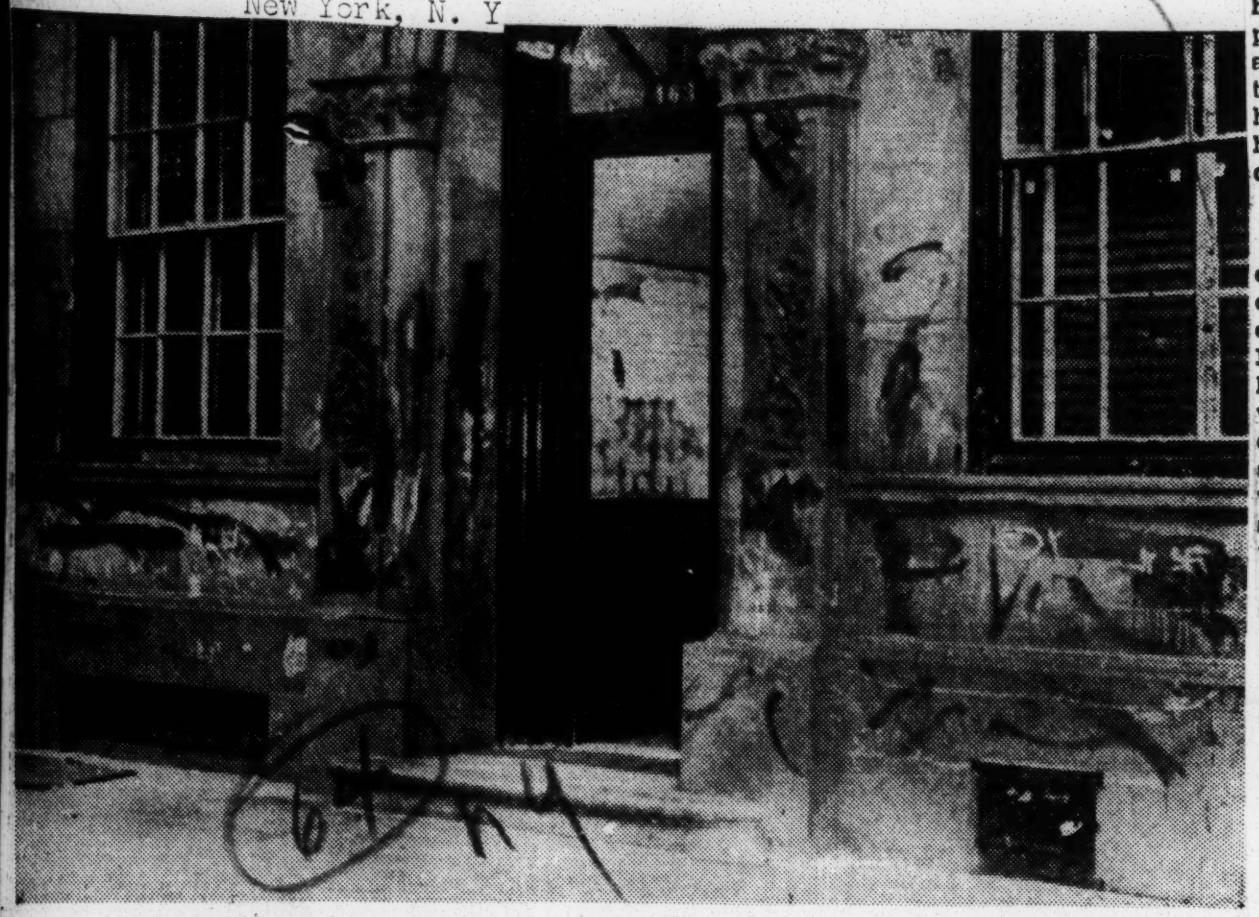
These omissions run counter to the spirit of the Redevelopment Companies Law, which, in Section 2, requires "adequate provision for recreational and other facilities incidental and appurtenant thereto according to the requirements of modern urban life."

64-1943

NEW YORK

Under Hoodlum Attack

Daily Worker
New York, N. Y



This photograph shows the entrance and approaches to the apartment house at 463 W. 166th St., with outside walls smeared with red paint and marked with Nazi swastikas. Not shown in the picture are insulting epithets aimed at the Negro tenants of the building. Just inside the door, as shown in the picture, the tile wall has been systematically dug out by the unidentified hoodlums. —Daily Worker Photo

Tenants Demand Mayor, Police Act Against Outrages

By Eugene Gordon

Negro tenants in the paint-smeared, swastika-marked house at 463 W. 166th St. depredations committed by unidentified persons who are trying to drive the Negroes out, demanded yesterday that the police department or Mayor LaGuardia take action at once to prevent serious trouble.

Mrs. Anne Caldwell, mother of a small child and superintendent of the building while her husband is at work downtown, shed tears of exasperation and discouragement as she recounted a story covering weeks of losing fights with young white hoodlums who smash windows and transoms, set fires in the vestibule, dig tile from the walls in the entrance, remove globes from the hall lights, smear red paint on the front of the house and scratch the sign of the swastika with crayon on top of the red paint.

"We have pleaded with the 34th precinct at 182nd St. and Wadsworth Ave., to catch these hoodlums," Mrs. Caldwell said, "but the policeman always comes after the damage has been done."

HOODLUMS DEFIANT

Mr. Caldwell, who comes home at 5:30, stood in front of the house in the rain with a policeman and the **Daily Worker** reporter late Tuesday evening while a crowd of young white men, some of whom Mrs. Caldwell swore were guilty of the depredations, stood by, leering and tossing insulting remarks at the Negro couple. The policeman, insisting that Mrs. Caldwell "positively identify" the youths she pointed out, refused to arrest any of them when they all denied participating.

They shouted "Liar!" at her when she said they came from a basement two doors away, at 467 W. 166th St., where they presumably kept their supply of paint. They called her a liar again when they said that a man sent by the agent of the premises to repair the damage, had chased them from his car in front of the house when he caught them ste[illegible] paint.

The policeman in the meantime, presumably trying to maintain a judicial pose, said nothing.

DEMAND POLICE ACTION

Mr. Caldwell, however, told the policeman and the crowd that if attacks on the house kept up and that if his wife was harmed in defending herself, "there'll be trouble ,and I'm warning you."

The policeman later entered the basement "club" at 467 W. 166th St., followed by the **Daily Worker** reporter. The youths by this time had all left. A man, who said he was janitor of the building and father of one of the youths, rushed upon the reporter swinging his arms and shouting: "Get out! Get out! I've had enough of your kind round here." He appealed to the policeman to "throw him out" when the reporter did not go.

This man, speaking calmly a little later, declared in one breath that he had "[illegible] against those people," referring to the Negro tenants two doors away, and in another that "they're ruining this neighborhood." He denied that he was behind the movement to drive Negroes out.

SAYS YOUTH EGGED ON

Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell and other occupants of 463 W. 166th St., are certain that the youths are egged on and supported by older persons. Mr. Caldwell says that although he has seen 'teen-age boys and girls writing anti-Negro epithets in front of the house, they have immediately ceased and become friendly when he engaged them in conversation on matters that generally interest young people.

"Somebody's putting these younger children up to it," he said.

A phone call to the 34th precinct, 182nd St. and Wadsworth Ave., by the **Daily Worker**, brought assurances from Sergeant Hartnett that a policeman would hereafter be on duty in the vicinity of the house from 4 P.M. to 8 A.M.

Sgt. Hartnett agreed that it would be an unfortunate reflection on the police if an outbreak occurred after the repeated warnings they have received.

The Negro tenants, however, say that the disorders take place during the time a policeman is not on duty and that a plainclothesman should patrol that block at all hours.

The house is owned by Moller and Hempel Co., Inc., 41 Audubon Ave., who have also, according to a clerk in the office yesterday, "been in touch with the police" to apprehend the hoodlums and to investigate the whole situation.

Sister Amelia, principal of the St. Rose Catholic School, 164th St. and St. Nicholas Ave., assured the **Daily Worker** two weeks ago that she would try to find out whether any of the students had had any part in the depredations. The neighborhood has long been notorious as harboring Coughlinite and Christian Front elements. The Negro tenants say that these people are undoubtedly organized and are using their children as agents of disorder.

N. Y. Jim-Crow Housing Before City Council

Defender
Chicago, Ill

NEW YORK.—Opposing factions in the dispute over the proposed Jim-Crow housing project which the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., plans to erect, girded for action this week as City Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs made known his intention to block the move by law.

Isaacs, a Republican member of the Council, stated that he will attempt to amend the city administrative code so that any such project, developed with municipal aid, will have to be free of any form of racial or religious discrimination.

The project in question is that at Stuyvesant Town, situated between 14th and 20th street, Avenues A and C, an area of 18 square city blocks.

The insurance company [illegible] that the city condemn the property in this district so that a private housing project for whites may be developed. The insurance company's plans call for its use as a solution to post-war housing problems, but state that Negroes are to be excluded.

Set Back In Courts

Two suits have already been instituted in the local courts in an effort to block the move. One of these, attacking the legality of condemnation proceedings under the conditions in this case, was lost when the Court of Appeals decided in favor of the insurance company. Another, based on the Jim-Crow issue, is still pending in the Supreme Court.

Menahem Stim of 29 Broadway, attorney for the property owners who brought the suit decided yesterday, said he would ask the court to stay its decision so the Supreme Court could be [illegible] to decide whether the condemnation constituted seizure of property without due process of law.

The Appeals Court's 4-to-2 decision, written by Judge Edmund H. Lewis, said that the state constitution specifically permitted condemnation of property to provide for clearance and rehabilitation of sub-standard housing areas. The dissenting opinion of Chief Judge Irving Lehman held that property could not be seized for a private corporation unless it was regulated by law as to rents, profits and dividends.

64-1943

Suggests Withdrawal From Metropolitan Life

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

BROOKLYN. — (ANP) — Withdrawal of the estimated 2,000,000 Negro held policies valued at $800,000,000 from the Metropolitan Life Insurance company will cause a change of attitude on the part of Metropolitan Life which is to construct a large housing project here from which Negroes will be barred, Prof. R. Grann Lloyd said at the banquet of the Brooklyn Protest committee held Tuesday.

After dealing with a large number of these undesirable practices Prof. Lloyd came to the Metropolitan Life Insurance company. "This company, I understand," he said, "wants to erect a segregated housing project in New York. Well, we won't let them get away with it. I understand Negroes have approximately 2,000,000 policies in this would be jim-crow company, valued at about $800,000.

Now, if this jim-crow housing project is erected in New York, let 2,000,000 Negroes withdraw from the Metropolitan Life Insurance company—cashing in on their policies, where possible. Take $800,000,000 from a company because of its policies and attitude, and I'll guarantee those policies and that attitude will change."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

PUSH FIGHT ON JIM CROW HOUSING UNIT

Want 'No Discrimination' Clause In Contract For $50,000,000 Project

NEW YORK.—A court order to prevent carrying out of the proposed $50,000,000 Jim Crow Stuyvesant Town housing project, because the New York City charter requires that approval of such programs must be by a three-fourths majority vote in the Board of Estimate, was sought in papers filed Monday by Julius L. Goldstein, counsel for the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi league.

The Board of Estimate vote on Thursday, which was assumed at the time to have validated the Stuyvesant Town plan, was by a margin of only 11 to 5, or one vote less than the three-fourths which the city charter requires in actions involving the grant of rights to private parties or corporations for use of city street properties.

In an appearance before the Board of Estimate last week, Prof. Sheldon opposed approval of the Stuyvesant Town agreement, on the ground that the chairman of the Metropolitan Insurance company had already stated that the new enterprise would exclude Negroes and on the ground that no safeguards had been provided against discrimination.

This project being the first of a proposed series of large-scale post-war housing enterprises contemplated by city planning authorities, he argued that "no Nazi-like discrimination should be permitted," declaring that if the project were approved in its present form it would be a victory for Goebbel's ideologies in America.

A Japanese family in New York runs into moving trouble

PM New York, N. Y.

LAST WEEK WE VISITED a family recently released from the Japanese Relocation Camp at Hunt, Idaho. The family, to which we will give the fictitious name of *Yamada*, is living temporarily with friends on East 43d Street, in two rooms much too cramped for a family of four.

Mrs. Yamada introduced us to her two children, George, 10, who was working on a toy model of a Flying Fortress, and Eileen, 6, who was cutting out paper dolls.

"Both children were born in New York," Mrs. Yamada said, "but they were brought up on our farm near Seattle."

In the Idaho camp, the Yamadas lived in a single room, furnished only with four cots. Yamada built benches, tables and bookshelves out of crates. He was educational director of the camp's consumers co-operative and Mrs. Y. worked in the recreation department. "My pay was $16 a month," she told us, "his was $19. But the Dies Committee put a stop to all that. They felt all of us were potential saboteurs who shouldn't be pampered."

New York

"Did it make you resentful?" we asked.

"No, it didn't. But I began to be disturbed by the effect it might have on the children. It seemed odd to have no Caucasians around. I could explain it to my son, but Eileen couldn't understand it. She thought we had done something bad to be put behind a barbed wire fence."

Caucasian friends of the Yamadas found her husband a job. Mrs. Yamada said, and, cleared by the FBI, they were permitted to leave the camp.

"He works in the laundry department of the YWCA," Mrs. Yamada said. "It's not much perhaps for a graduate from Washington State College, but we are very grateful to our friends for finding it."

The Yamadas' big problem now is to find a permanent home.

"We've followed up dozens of leads and many advertisements. Some of the agents in buildings that had *For Rent* signs outside would look at us coldly and say that they were 100 per cent rented. Some agents that we spoke to on the telephone would ask us twice the rent when we appeared in person.

"Someone suggested the Parkchester and we went there. It's a lovely place. But they don't want Orientals.

"Then we went to 380 Riverside and the agent told us that they never took Orientals. He said they had refused to rent even to a Chinese banker and a Chinese lawyer!

"Some of the houses, we know, do the same to Jews and Negroes as they do to Orientals, but that's cold comfort when you haven't a place to live. I said to one of the landlords who exclude Jews, 'We're Gentiles, you know.' But he missed the sarcasm."

PM
New York, N. Y.

Thanksgiving

Here's one race prejudice story with a happy ending. Two months ago Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rannie moved into a house at 114-12 169th St., St. Albans, Queens. As you may remember reading in PM, the Rannies, Negroes, were abused by certain white neighbors, and rocks were thrown through their windows. The Rannies took court action against one neighbor.

Today Mrs. Rannie told PM the trouble had ceased entirely. The neighbors all seem to have a friendly attitude, she reported

"Please take their picture with their backs turned," Mrs. Yamada requested. "In that way Eileen and George will look like what they are, two typical American children. Behind barbed wire, it's hard to remember that." (See story above.)

12

NEGRO UNIONIST APPEALS

UE Women Force Apology from Hotel Over Insult to Negro

Daily Worker N.Y.

By Ann Rivington

"UE" union wives let swank Hotel New Yorker's management know yesterday that they won't accept Jim Crow.

Occasion was the management's attempt to force guest speaker, Alice Neville, Negro secretary-treasurer of NMU Auxiliaries, to ride the service elevator up to the half-heated hotel's mezzanine floor.

When they learned of the insult, the indignant women immediately adjourned their session, and in a body escorted the delegate from the hotel lobby, child care, volunteer activity of a second European Front in the war, and to build Negro and white unity among themselves.

"You have got to stand together with your dark sisters," she cried, "and encourage them, too. . . . When I say Hitler is walking in our midst, I'm not joking. Each and every way we walk, we can see his spirit lingering. It's try-

Mrs. Neville did not mention the indignity she and her sister had just suffered, which was the cause of her lateness. She launched at once into a magnificent speech, calling on the women to fight for a second European Front in the war, and to build Negro and white unity among themselves.

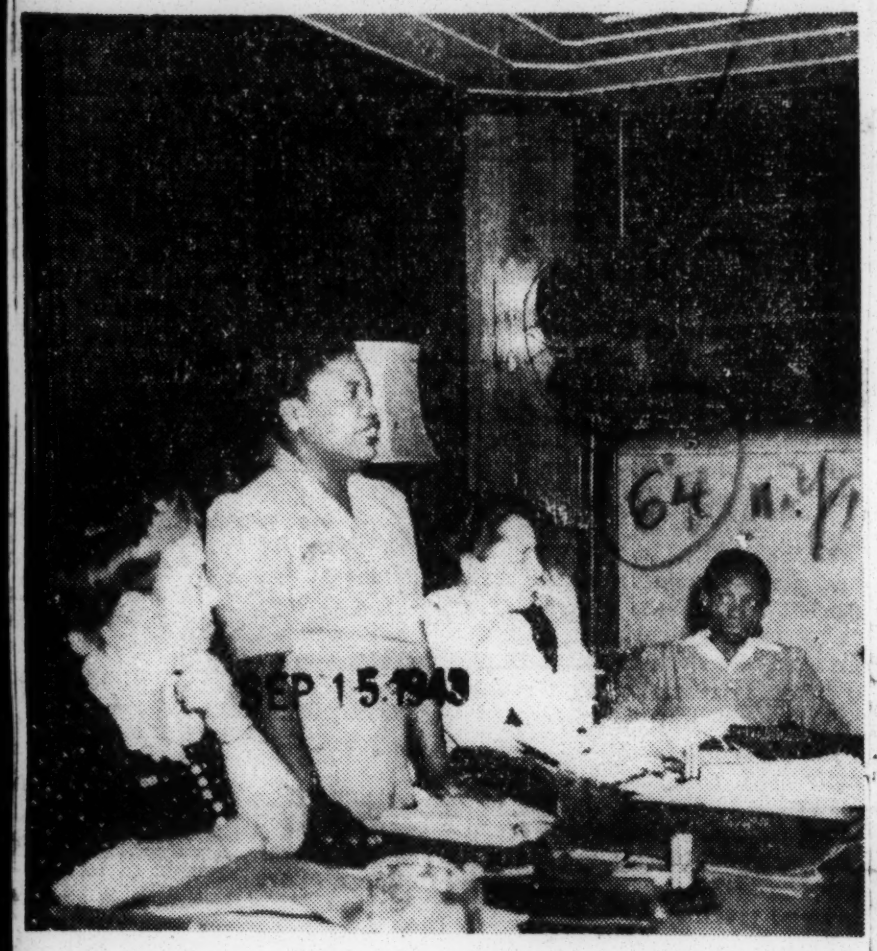
At last—it was 11:20—Mrs. Neville arrived, accompanied by her sister, Anita Ross. She was introduced at once by Mrs. Eve Taylor, National President of UE Auxiliaries.

Meeting was scheduled to assemble wives of workers at 11 and reports on auxiliaries filled the time. The delegate from Pittsfield, Mass., reported that her group had collected clothes for Russian War Relief, made bandages and given blood to the Red Cross. The delegate from Schenectady told of work with the OPA, the fight for child care, volunteer activity of the women as air wardens and plane spotters.

At last—it was 11:20—Mrs. Neville arrived, accompanied by her sister, Anita Ross. She was introduced at once by Mrs. Eve Taylor, National President of UE Auxiliaries.

"You have got to stand together with your dark sisters," she cried, "and encourage them, too. . . . When I say Hitler is walking in our midst, I'm not joking. Each and every way we walk, we can see his spirit lingering. It's try-

'Your Unity and Mine'



Alice Neville, national secretary-treasurer of NMU Auxiliaries makes impassioned plea for Negro and white unity at "U.E." Auxiliary Conference, Hotel New Yorker. Left to right, Mrs. Eve Taylor, National President of U.E. Auxiliaries; Mrs. Neville; Katherine Beecher, national U.E. auxiliary education director; Anita Rose. Five minutes before picture was taken, Mrs. Neville was [illegible]m-crowed into service elevator. Half an hour later [illegible] conference walked to the lobby in a body, to protest to hotel management.

ing to destroy, wherever it sees unity and progress. Our husbands suffer too much for us to let this happen.

"I bring you a message from the entire Negro womanhood of America," Mrs. Neville went on, as her white women listeners leaned forward on their seats in the hushed room. "I am a woman, and what hurts one woman hurts all. The strength of our trade unions depends on real democracy, the right of men or women, regardless of creed or color.

"We can't lie down sisters. When our men say, 'Keep the home-fires burning,' they don't mean just keep a little light burning. When they come back they want to see stronger unions, stronger unity between Negro and white and Chinese and Jew and Irish and all nationalities. Let's keep our brains open, and for heaven's sake don't let the image of Hitler come among us!"

After the applause died away at last, Katherine Beecher, national education director of the UE Auxiliaries stood up. Her dark eyes flashed as she told of the insult Mrs. Neville and Miss Ross had just suffered. "We've got the opportunity to show that we mean what we say," she told her shocked audience.

Near the front entrance, the group waited, forming a circle around their two "dark sisters," while a committee headed by President Taylor and Miss Beecher went to the manager.

At first he tried to shunt off the protest to an assistant to an assistant manager, supposedly in charge of the convention. "So many [illegible] we have no way of knowing," he demurred. And then he gave a grudging apology.

That isn't enough, the women decided. The matter will be referred to the Union's arrangements committee for further action. Surrounding Mrs. Neville and Miss Ross, they walked slowly, all together, out of the Hotel New Yorker.

AFRO Writer Defies Waldorf Ban

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md

NEW YORK.—Mrs. Mable Alston (left) of the AFRO, and Mrs. Pearl Cox of the Washington Tribune, registered and were given rooms in the Waldorf-Astoria Monday night while hotel authorities looked in vain for two colored women.

The two reporters were part of a delegation of fifteen newspaper women who came here from Washington as special guests of the War

World-Telegram
New York, N. Y.

Housing Project Faces Challenge

The right of the Metropolitan Insurance Co. to construct its Stuyvesant Town housing development on Manhattan's East Side was challenged today by Eliot D. Pratt, grandson of the late Charles Pratt, one of the early associates of John D. Rockefeller.

Mr. Pratt said he will file a taxpayers' suit in Supreme Court today, seeking to restrain the project because it discriminates against Negroes as tenants. His suit, he said, will challenge the constitutionality of the contract by which the city gave the insurance company the right of eminent domain and a 25-year tax exemption.

PM
New York, N. Y.

Negroes in Hotels

Dear Editor:

If the item on New York hotels accommodating the Negroes appeared anywhere else, PM would be sure to doff its bonnet.

Why not do it anyway? The fact that the New Yorker and the Hotel Astor, two first-rate New York hotels, have expressed their welcome to any soldier who gets there in time to get a room, is too important an issue to be relegated to obscurity in *Shopping Questions*—at least for a newspaper like PM.

I saw the item. I liked it. It made me feel good, and I think others would like to know about it too.

New York LILLIAN ZATT

Move Aims To To Tear Down Jim Crow Wall

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

Metropolitan Life's Stuyvesant Town Meeting Opposition

A new action was filed Monday in the Supreme Court to enjoin the City of New York and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company from carrying out the contract for the Stuyvesant Town project signed on August 4. The suit is a taxpayer's action brought by Eliot D. Pratt and it has the sponsorship of a number of civic, welfare, and labor organizations, including the Citizens' Housing Council of New York, the Citizens' Union, the City-Wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem, Committee Against Race Discrimination in the War Effort and the New York Committee of the American Civil Liberties' Union, Greater New York Industrial Council of the CIO, United Tenants League of Greater New York, as well as Nathaniel M. Minkoff, Secretary-Treasurer of the Joint Board of Dress and Waistmakers' Union, ILGWU, A. F. of L.

Spokesmen for these organizations earlier expressed their amazement at the haste with which the City has signed its contract with the Metropolitan for the erection of Stuyvesant Town and pointed out that the constitutionality of the Redevelopment Companies Law under which this contract was made is still in doubt, since the Appellate Division held the law valid by only a three to two vote and the matter is now pending before the Court of Appeals.

It's Constitutional

In the complaint filed Monday, several of the reasons set forth for questioning the constitutionality of the City's action in the Stuyvesant Town proceedings were not covered in the suit of certain property owners now before the Court of Appeals.

The earlier suit questioned sole-ly the legality of the use of con-demnation powers for private pur-poses which is permitted by the Redevelopment Companies Law under which the contract was formulated. The new action, however, opens the controversy to broader and more incisive questions of municipal and state responsibility for guarantees to which it is en-

titled in exchange for the use of sovereign powers for the benefit of private corporations. Two out of five judges of the Appellate Divi-sion have held that the State law is invalid because it permits the use of condemnation powers of the City for a corporation which at its own discretion can withdraw from the Redevelopment Companies Law. Arguments in the new complaint will compel, furthermore, judgment on the award of tax exemption in a private contract and the discrimi-natory use of city funds and prop-

erty. The inability of the City to enforce the actual construction of the project after condemnation of land unless, according to the contract, the Court of labor and structural materials are not substantially higher than that prevailing on January 1, 1943, is also established as a basis for the argument that public funds and property may thus be expended without any benefit whatever to the city and its taxpayers

64-1943
The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

Ohio

Whites Cancelled Reservations

When Colored Members Were Refused!

A national meeting of student council executives, staff members of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. canceled a part of their reservations when it was learned that the Cincinnati Club refused to house their two Negro delegates. The entire Saturday afternoon, Sunday and Monday meetings were moved to the Manse Hotel where the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Sudduth, extended every hospitality to the conference. The Cincinnati Club agreed that meetings could be held and meals available in private rooms, but no arrangements for sleeping of Negro delegates. At the Manse Hotel, white and Negro youth leaders lodged and enjoyed an atmosphere of fellowship in complete freedom and accommodations. Each of the two Negro delegates, Mr. Herbert King and Mr. L. M. Catching of Atlanta, had fellow white bed companions. The entire conference expressed appreciation for the attitude and hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Sudduth. The arrangements for changing the locale of the conference were made by Arnold B. Walker and Miss Frances Mains, Y. W. C. A. student secretary in the Student Region.

SEP 23 1943

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

COURIER CARRIES CASE TO MEETING

By STANLEY ROBERTS
(Ohio Bureau)

CLEVELAND, Ohio — The infamous "Ghetto Document" of the National Association of Real Estate Boards is no more!

The anti-Negro statement, exposed exclusively in The Pittsburgh Courier seven weeks ago, was completely repudiated here during the annual meeting of the organization at the Cleveland Hotel last week.

The repudiation took the form of an executive order in which the statement was termed "most regrettable" . . . denied it represented "the official attitude of the association toward the Negro" . . . and promised to delete it "in its entirety" if the book in which the statement appeared is republished.

The Courier Thanks . . .

The Pittsburgh Courier, at this time, takes pride in publicly thanking:

LOUIS B. SELTZER, Editor of The Cleveland Press.

JAMES K. CHANDLER, Real Estate Editor of The Cleveland Press.

M. C. CLARKE, President of Dunbar Mutual Life Insurance Company, for the valuable assistance rendered in enabling this paper to bring before executives of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, the condition first exposed by The Courier, which led to the repudiation.

AGAIN . . . THANKS!

LOUD PROTESTS FOLLOW EXPOSE

The objectionable excerpt in which The Courier discovered and exposed read as follows:

"When for example, in a respectable neighborhood, a house is wanted for conversion to an objectionable use, no respectable broker will consent to represent the buyer. The latter might be a bootlegger who would cause considerable annoyance to his neighbors; a 'Madam' who had a number of 'call girls' on her string, a racketeer who wanted a screen for his activities by living in a better neighborhood, A COLORED MAN OF MEANS WHO WAS GIVING HIS CHILDREN A COLLEGE EDUCATION AND THOUGHT THEY WERE ENTITLED TO BE AMONG WHITES....."

Under the impact of The Courier expose, Negroes from every section of the country voiced protests against the un-American and un-Democratic attitude of real estate groups which had dared to write in written form, the "unwritten law" which has for years and years confined Negroes to the "ghettoes" and "slum areas" of the metropolitan centers.

EXPRESSES REGRETS

The public apology and repudiation was contained in a letter written by Herbert U. Nelson, executive secretary of the powerful realtor's organization, and addressed to Ira F. Lewis, Courier president. Wrote Mr. Nelson in part:

"The association is glad to take this occasion officially . . . to express regret that the incident occurred."

COURIER MOVES INTO REALTOR'S CONFERENCE

More than 3,000 delegates from every state in the Union were in attendance at the big four-day conference.

Convention speakers on the business-packed program included Ohio's Governor John Bricker, Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, Brigadier General S. G. Godfrey, U. S. Army Air Force and other ranking figures in the business, political and military life of the nation.

Into this significant conference moved The Courier to discover if the attitude of classifying Negroes as "undesirables" along with bootleggers, gangsters and "Madams", represented the official attitude of the NAREB.

CONVENTION INFORMED

The association was informed "in advance" that The Courier and 13,000,000 Negroes were interested in what action would be taken regarding an insulting statement which had reflected on an entire race.

William G. Nunn, managing editor, dispatched the following wire to the convention:

"In its issue of October 9, this year, The Pittsburgh Courier carried news story to effect your organization, in section 'Equipment of the Real Estate Broker,' written by Harry Grant Atkinson and Lester E. Frailey, pages 16 and 17, under 'Instructions: Broker's Obligation to the Buyer,' listed Negroes among objectional groups stop Interviewed later some of your executives denied knowledge of 'instructions' stop Entire Negro group interested in what action, if any, convention will take stop Mr. Stanley Roberts, our Ohio editor, will contact you for statement stop. We trust you will grant him courtesy of interview."

Separate copies of the above message were placed in the hands of Cyrus G. Wilmore, NAREB president from St. Louis; Herbert U. Nelson, executive vice president, Chicago; Percy Wilson, treasurer, Chicago; Loland R. Randall, vice president, Philadelhpia, and C. Armel Nutter, vice president, Camden, N. J.

In two days of conferring with these men and numerous other delegates between regular sessions and frequent committee meetings, association members were convinced that something concrete should be done to eradicate an insult which had caused grave concern among Negroes, and which gave official concurrence to prevalent real estate practices in confining colored citizens to the "ghettoes" in urban communities.

That "something concrete" is expressed in the letter reproduced in the current issue of this publication.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REAL ESTATE BOARDS

HERBERT U. NELSON
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
22 WEST MONROE ST.
CHICAGO

November 17, 1943

Mr. Ira F. Lewis
President and General Manager
Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company
2628 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Lewis:

Mr. Stanley Roberts, the Ohio editor of the Courier, has called to my attention the statement appearing in the volume, "The Fundamentals of Real Estate Practice" published by this Association, reflecting on the Negro race.

The statement is a most regrettable one. It does not, and never did, represent the official attitude of the Association toward the Negro. The article in question was prepared by individuals who were invited to discuss sales methods and techniques. Obviously, the statement was not reviewed by our editors in sending the book to press. It should never have been printed.

The publication is now out of print. It was sold only to a limited number of persons who were members of real estate boards. Those copies now in the hands of their owners are beyond our control, but if the occasion arises to republish the book, you may rest assured that the objectionable language will be deleted in its entirety.

This Association is glad to take this occasion officially to disown the statement and to express regret that the incident occurred.

Please accept my thanks for bringing up this matter. I appreciate more than words can tell the courtesy shown by Mr. Roberts in his discussions with our people and the manner in which you have handled this regrettable incident. I am most hopeful that the relationships of our Association with the Negro race can be maintained on a high plane of mutual understanding of the common problems we face in the matters of housing and real estate ownership.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert U. Nelson

Herbert U. Nelson
Executive Secretary

Following up its expose of the infamous "Ghetto" document, The Pittsburgh Courier contacted officials of The National Association of Real Estate Boards at their convention last week in Cleveland. Obtaining organization's attitude to an item in a book sponsored by NAREB. The Board of directors took strong action to repudiate the gross insult to Negroes and officially expressed an apology.

NOV 27 1943

64-1943

CORRECTION: On April 17 it was reported that a federal housing project for war workers at Farrell, Pennsylvania, was moved to a slum section when it was learned that Negroes as well as whites would live in it. Further investigation reveals that the whole project was suspended because changes in contracts eliminated the need of new workers. It was originally plannd to locate the Negro dwellings in a less desirable section than the white dwellings, not because of discrimination by the government, but because Negroes are usually given low-pay jobs and cannot afford to pay as much rent as whites.

NAACP Cites Jim Crow Of Race For Immigrant Defense Plant Workers

MAY 15 1943

Instances of discriminatory practices in the selection of immigrant war workers for occupancy in the city's various public housing projects was cited, this week, by the local office of the NAACP.

Under the program set up for the housing of immigrant war workers, placements are to be secured for new war workers coming to the city who have no place to live, the families of men who have been in the city up to one year and whose families have not joined them because of lack of housing, and those war workers living under such sub-standard conditions as to impare their health and affect their work.

The NAACP reports that several families, three of whom were immigrant war workers, were referred to the Philadelphia Housing Authority by the NAACP, but were not placed at the Tasker Street project or in any of the war housing projects in Philadelphia.

One of the families, according to the report, was kept waiting for some days until a unit became unoccupied at the Richhard Allen project, and another family had been on the waiting list for more than a week without any word from the Housing Authority.

This second family is composed of seven persons, who are said to be living in two rooms. In a third instance, three children and their mother are still in West Virginia waiting for an opportunity to join the head of the household who is a welder at Sun Shipyard, but who has been unable to secure housing accommodations for the family.

The NAACP pointed out that vacancies have existed at the Tasker Street project for months. Several weeks ago, the group stated, the number of empty units was seventy-five.

According to a statement asserted made by James Kelly, executive director of the Philadelphia Housing Authority, not more than ten per cent of the tenants of the Tasker project can be Negroes, so that applicants for homes must be listed for vacancies in the Richard Allen or James W. Johnson projects.

MAY 15 1943

It is believed that the names on the lists for these two projects have already reached the 2,000 mark. The local office of the NAACP is urging that public action be taken to insist upon some alterations in the present system.

Pennsylvania

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

80 Empty Units At Tasker Project Barred To Negroes

Despite the increasingly difficult problem of providing adequate housing for the great influx of war workers who have invaded Philadelphia, it was revealed, this week, by the NAACP, that 70 or 80 empty units of the Tasker Street project are being repeatedly denied to Negro applicants in order that the local Housing Authority might maintain its original 10 per cent Negro occupancy ratio.

The NAACP reports that only two of the five temporary projects which recently began construction, will be open to colored occupancy, and further states that they will be restricted exclusively to Navy Yard workers who are skilled, immigrant employees designated as acceptable by Navy Yard officials.

The Association states that the Housing Authority is losing hundreds of dollars of taxpayers' money every month, from the pockets of the Negro families who cannot be admitted to the Tasker project, because the units are unoccupied.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Lt. Drake Wins Fight for Home Purchase

PHILADELPHIA

Lt. Warren M. Drake has apparently won his fight to purchase a home in West Philadelphia which he charged in a civil suit was denied him by the HOLC Owners' Loan Corporation because he was colored.

Moving to settle the case out of court after Federal Judge George Welsh advised reopening of negotiations, the HOLC has drawn up agreement of sale papers for the house at 134 N. Fiftieth Street, the AFRO learned, and the only holdup now is the army officer's signature.

Pending signing of the papers by Lieutenant Drake, who is stationed in Camp Sibert, Ala., the officer's real estate broker, Lenerte Roberts, asked the court Wednesday to to continue the case until June 23. This was granted by Judge Welsh.

Terms of Agreement

Terms of the agreement call for sale of the house for $4,775—$25 more than Drake's last offer before he brought suit—with 10 per down and the balance to be paid off in fifteen years. The HOLC will hold the mortgage.

In his suit, Lieutenant Drake sought an injunction preventing sale of the house to anyone except himself.

His petition charges that the HOLC, a U.S. Government agency, and its contract broker, John J. Reilly, violated the HOLC act of 1933 and the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution in refusing to permit him to purchase the property after orally accepting an offer of $4,750.

The army officer also alleged that the refusal was based on fear of repercussions if the property, located in a "white" block, was sold to colored persons.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Hate May Force Tailor to Move

WYNCOTE, Pa. — Martinez C. Jackson recently purchased the building where for nine years he has successfully operated a cleaning and dyeing establishment in an otherwise lily-white neighborhood. Now he faces evictim because he also intends to make his home there.

Jackson, a veteran of World War II, said that his property at 149 Greenwood Avenue was recently condemned as unsanitary and creating a fire hazard.

Upon applying for a permit for renovations, he said, he was told by H. C. Pike, commissioner of Cheltenham Township, that he is "not respectable enough" to operate such a business in the community.

DEC 4 - 1943

The main objectors to his remaining at the site, according to Jackson, are Dr. Grable, principal of Cheltenham High School, and Mr. and Mrs. Harmon, whose properties flank his on either side, and with whom attempts to reason have failed.

The proprietor, who lives in North Hills, has referred the case to the Philadelphia branch of the NAACP and retained a local lawyer to represent him in fighting the eviction attempt.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
April 13, 1943

PROTESTS RAISED AT HOUSING SITE

Plan for Negro Homes on the Brandt Farm Property is Opposed by Residents

Residents of St. Philip's and St. Michael's parish have protested to John P. Broome, regional director for the federal housing agency, in Atlanta, and to Representative L. Mendel Rivers, in Washington, against location of any negro housing project on the Brandt farm property on the Meeting street road just north of the Standard Oil company's refinery.

Mrs. Pauline Harmon, secretary for the St. Philip's and St. Michael's public service district commission, said last night that several persons had presented petitions protesting the location of the project there and that she had written to Broome and Rivers.

She emphasized that the people of the section are not desirous of blocking any war project by they do not wish a negro project located in a predominantly white section. She added that Union Heights, Lincoln Village and Accabee are negro sections with available lands.

Edward D. Clement, executive director for the Housing Authority of the City of Charleston, said he had received no protests but that the authority had not yet definitely fixed a site for the negro project.

The Long Construction company is to build for the V Housing corporation a 500-unit negro project in the King street extension, just north of the city. Mrs. Harmon said there is no objection to this location for a negro project.

The V Housing project also has acquired three tracts near the Five-Mile viaduct for construction of homes for white people. It is reporte dthat the housing authority had sought one of these sites prior to its acquisition by the V Housing corporation.

64-1943

Tennessee

Knoxville, Tenn. Journal
October 29. 1943

Sumner Plans Negro School Protest Meet

NASHVILLE, Oct. 28 (AP)—Sumner County citizens Saturday will meet to consider a protest which originated with the Hendersonville Civic Club against the location of a vocational extension of the Nashville Christian Institute, a Negro school, near the town.

C. L. Powell, a club committeeman, contacted in Hendersonville, said members of the committee had met here with A. M. Burton, member of the board of directors of the Church of Christ Institute, and had found him "firm in his stand to carry out plans to establish a Negro school on a 1000-acre farm near town."

"The location of the school in this area," Powell said, "would be a decided detriment to the community because the community isn't prepared for the infiltration of Negro population which would result from the school's establishment.

"The club can't speak for the entire population of the county, however," he said, "so a meeting has been called Saturday to lay the matter before the citizens." He said Burton had been invited to speak at the meeting.

64-1943

VIRGINIA

Deny Negroes New Housing Project In Arlington, Va.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

ARLINGTON, Va. — (ANP) — Determined to avoid a Sojourner Truth incident in the Old Dominion State, officials of the Emergency Committee on Housing for the Metropolitan Area of Washington decided not to turn the newly erected George Pickett homes in Arlington county over for Negro tenancy. The matter had been discussed at a conference last Tuesday and it was agreed that the homes would be definitely used for white tenants.

Officials of the county government are said to be working on plans for the location and development within the county limits of a Negro housing project.

E. L. Usilton, president of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, said the emergency for housing projects for white people was greater than for Negroes, although it is admitted that the crowded condition among Negroes is bad.

The conversion of these houses from white to Negro tenancy was urged in a report accepted by the emergency committee on housing in the metropolitan area but local groups would not stand for the edict and as soon as the houses were nearly completed, grabbed them off for the whites in the area who, they claimed, were in greater need than the Negroes. There are 500 units.

The project is located adjacent to a small scattered area of Negroes who have lived in the section for years. Since most of the homes occupied by Negroes have been taken away by public land condemnation, there has been a greater shortage of homes for Negroes in the area.

The decision to erect such projects offered an opportunity for Negroes to get homes and upon suggestons, Negroes applied for the George Pickett project to be designated as an all Negro project. This was objected to by the whites since it was originally intended that whites should occupy this new project.

Interested persons consider this a "border-line" case which is now in the "manipulation stage." Although it is not a major fight, it is interesting to point out that it is a step which may be directed to the need for more and better housing for Negroes in Arlington county. This county in Virginia is just across the river from Washington and is thickly populated with people who work in the district.

Va. Favors Partial Jim Crow

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

EDITORIAL

The Richmond Times Dispatch, which is advocating repeal of legislation in requiring racial segregation on urban street cars and buses in Virginia received this query:

"Will not such action lead to the abolition of segregation everywhere?"

War-Time Nuisance

The Times said it wouldn't, that it was willing to get rid of jim crow on street cars because during war, it was a nuisance and could not be enforced.

But segregation in the schools, restaurants, hotels, etc., can be enforced and the Times is in favor of continuing such jim crow.

Lack of Logic

For a long time we haven't had a better example of the lack of logic in the South's whole program for jim crow.

It is for segregation only because it wants it. Logic doesn't apply. The South can't defend segregation on the ground of justice, economy or morality.

64-1943

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

GUILTY WILL BE PUNISHED, LOCAL COMMITTEE TOLD

NEW WORLD
APR 28 1943

SEATTLE. — A thorough investigation of charges that an attempt was made to use the official Air Raid Warden organizations to circulae petitions calling for the ouster of Negro families from the Holly Park federal housing project, will be made, a committee of labor and civic leaders was informed this week by Mayor William E. Devin.

Mayor Devin told the committe that if a probe shows that the petitions were brought up at a meeting of Air Raid Wardens those guilty would be "disciplined."
APR 28 1943

In the committee calling on the mayor with the request for an investigation, were the Rev. F. Benjamin Davis, pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist church and chairman of the Council on Minority Rights; Charles Meyer, executive-secretary Seattle CIO Council; Del Castle, AFL Ship Scalers; Robert Hawkes, National Maritime Union, and Senator Thomas C. Rabbit of the Building Service Employes Union.
APR 28 1943

Charges Made

Charges that the Air Raid Warden organization was used to circulate the Hitler-like petitions have been made by E. J. Boyle, veterman member of the Railroad Bortherhoods and resident of the community Boyle's charges were first published in the New World on April 8th and resulted in a demand for an investigation from numerous organizations.

Boyle charges that he was given a copy of the petition by a neighbor, who is an Air Raid Warden. Later, he declared another Air Raid Warden, Charles Ringer, attempted to get him to surrender it and threatened him with bodily injury if he refused.

Member o the committee told the New World that "they have evidence that Ringed brought the peitions to a meeting of Air Raid Wardens.
APR 28 1943

Mayor Has Letters

Mayor Devin showed the committee a letter he received from Ringer stating that the petiions were sponsored by the Greater Empire Way Community Club and that they were being circulated only to "make the Negro people happy."
APR 28 1943

The petitions, however, asked that the Negro families be excluded from the housing project on the slanderous grounds that they were a "menace to the peace and quiet of the community" and "as a race" did not make desirable neighbors.
APR 28 1943

Frank M. Crutsinger, director of the Federal Public Housing Authority, told the New World that no petitions have been presented to him. He said he wrote the Greater Empire Way Community Club the government's position against discrimination in federal housing projects.

Crutsinger said that no resident of the project had complained about the Negro families but that he had received a number of highly complimentary reports on these families.
APR 28 1943

Mayor Devin also told the committee that he would make a statement over his next radio address.
APR 28 1943

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Discrimination In Housing Hit

APR 28 1943

Circulation of petitions seeking to prevent Negroes from residing in the Holy Park federal housing project was denounced yesterday in a letter to Mayor William F. Devin from Hope Lodge No. 79, International Association of Machinists.
APR 28 1943

"At this time, when colored American citizens as well as white American citizens are doing what they can to help preserve American democracy, it is, in our opinion, poor judgment to use Ku Klux Klan methods of discrimination and persecution," the letter read in part.
APR 28 1943

"We hope the authorities will ignore such petitions and respectfully urge that you use your good influence to see that all eligible persons, regardless of race or creed, are given equal opportunity in these housing projects."

Washington

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

EDITORIAL

APR 14 1943

The Dormitory segregation "wrinkle" at Bremerton, and certain other similar "rubs" in housing projects in the State of Washington have been brought to the attention of The Enterprise by their closeness and their inescapable odor!
APR 14 1943

These things used to be foreign to the great Northwest, where all men have been accustomed to breath free air — uncircuscribed by naught —except the lack "of more worlds to conquer. Even in this generation and decade we, in Washington, have heard or read of racial discriminations, "jim-crow" laws and their infractions, frequently resulting in dire insult or injury; and of other like incidents — all seeming as something separate and apart from our good old U. S. A. and particularly from the great Northwest.

But these things are slipping their slithering bodies in among us, loaded with all the poisons and venoms known to the species. They have struck no deadly blows as yet, but their forked tongues are already darting out in hatred and defiance — toward felow Americans!
APR 14 1943

The Enterprise is not pausing to wonder why — nor whence they come. It is all very obvious. Our more immediate wonder is: Will the Northwest succumb to the influence of Southern racial prejudices — in a time like this. — or will our greater philosophies of freedom stand the test?

It is scarcely a question that these "wrinkles" and disruptions are being brought to us directly from the Southland — by Southerners and of both racial groups; and we might go so far as to wish that they had stayed at home with their quarrels and petty squabbles — or had left them behind, like the old dirty and odoriferous clothes some of them are accustomed to wear. But we prefer the broader and more liberal view: The situation and problem of two fast growing races living under the same flag (ideal, but somewhat impractical in its beginning) is no longer a sectional situation, confined to the Southland. It has long since become something much more and bigger! It is an American institution, as impossible to ignore or shake off as our great mountain ranges, to East and West, and the great river valleys between. It must be met squarely and honestly and given full consideration when met.
APR 14 1943

And in the same language, the Negro American, an integral part of the "situation", is a permanent institution. He BELONGS; and in spite of all the Bilbos in Mississppi and elsewhere, He is going to stay here! His fathers and gradfathers have won him the right to belong — and now, at this moment on foreign battle fields, he is perpetuating the rights of his sons and daughters — unborn, to BELONG, whether certains and their congressmen like it or not! Then, as such, in free democratic America, he has every right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness that any other American enjoys.
APR 14 1943

And yet, his Southern white brother comes three thousand miles or more away from his Southern home as a kind of "nemesis" — to rob him of the few breaths of free air he might enjoy in the Northwest — to stir up some imaginary "bug-bear" of danger to womanhood, and the like.

It is a plain case of "Negrophoebia," more detrimental or deadly than the rabbies of the mad-dog, though much the same in its symptoms and effect (on the dog). Such cases are hard to understand in the human being, especially when unprovoked by any act or word that might be construed as offensive. It might be understood as color madness, like that of a bull seeing a red rag.
APR 14 1943

This is the problem that is being brought to the Northwest. A problem of unreasoning hate, and unless something constructive is done about it — something to subdue or stamp it out of the hearts and minds of all Americans, we are going to be a long time winning the war — and even when victory comes this same war will not have been won for a lot of loyal Americans. They will feel that they have fought in vain!
APR 14 1943

Next week: "What we are fighting for" read it in The Enterprise.

64-1943

Wisconsin

Wis. Students Hit Adultery Charges In Campus Scandal

Chicago, Illinois Defender

(Special to the Defender)

MADISON, Wis.—A final showdown on the controversial race discrimination issue in dormitory housing loomed on the University of Wisconsin campus this week.

MAY 22 1943

An adultery case involving two former Chicagoans—a Negro ex-student and a white co-ed—was the center of a developing battle which will come into open court on Thursday, May 20, when attorneys for Joseph Mark Kennedy, accused Negro father of two children, will attempt to have his "guilty" plea withdrawn.

Aligned in the local fight on race prejudice are a Negro-hating clique working overtime to inflate a "social equality" bogeyman in the wake of the arrest of the co-ed and the Negro ex-student together in a campus rooming house.

Start 'Defense Fund'

On the other side are hundreds of white students who have flocked to Kennedy's support. Sensing an effort to railroad the former Negro honor student to prison for three years and use the case as an indictment of non-discriminatory campus housing, the white students have started a "defense fund" for Kennedy.

A group of them sent a student leader to Chicago this week and interested the N.A.A.C.P. and CIO in the case. Atty. Harold Tyler came here as a result and will plead Kennedy's case in court.

Students charge discrimination in the case, pointing to the similarity of the details with the recent case of the University of Wisconsin professor arrested in a Milwaukee hotel with a youngf co-ed. In that instance both were charged with disorderly conduct and fined $25.

No Lawyer

However, when Madison police arrested Kennedy and 20-year-old Miss Madeleine Rosenstiel last Friday night in a campus boarding house, she was charged with "lewd and lascivious conduct," fined $100 and indefinitely suspended from the university.

MAY 22 1943

Kennedy was not allowed to phone anyone for aid, was refused a lawyer, and had to plead "guilty" to adultery charges. He faces a one to three year term.

Miss Rosenstiel claimed she had not had any illicit relations with Kennedy and offered to submit to a medical examination but the police refused to allow doctors to make the examination.

It is evident that several townspeople are determined to make an example of Kennedy in order to squelch recent moves for mixed campus housing. District Attorney Maloney has stated in private that several parties were interested in giving a lesson to the campus "radicals."

Author of Book

Several students tried to contact Kennedy in jail to help him but were not allowed by Sheriff John R. Arnold to see him. A number of notes sent to Kennedy have been intercepted by the sheriff and handed to local newspapers for publicity purposes.

Kennedy, in jail, said his associations with several white girls at the university were for helping them in their studies. He is the author of a book, "A Voice from Home," which was to be published this fall.

He said that not only police but white landladies have trailed him and "pointed the finger at me" when he visited white girls in their rooming houses. He said they assumed that his presence was "ipso facto" that the house would get a bad name.

Kennedy is separated from his wife and it was her complaint that brought his arrest in the room of the Chicago white co-ed. However, his wife is backing him up now. He has lived in Chicago most of his life but has attended five or six universities, doing one semester at the University of Wisconsin.

Only last week the University of Wisconsin student board passed an ordinance which provided:

"It is the general student policy of the University of Wisconsin that no student will discriminate against any other student because of race, color or creed. Any student who is deprived of his rights and privileges in his living quarters or on the campus as a result of threats, intimidation, ostracism or any other overt acts of discrimination shall present his case to the housing committee at any time during the current semester or within sixty days after the last act of offense is charged to have occurred."

MAY 22 1943